

WHITESIDE COUNTY  
BOYS

IN PORTO RICO

1898

ILLUSTRATED



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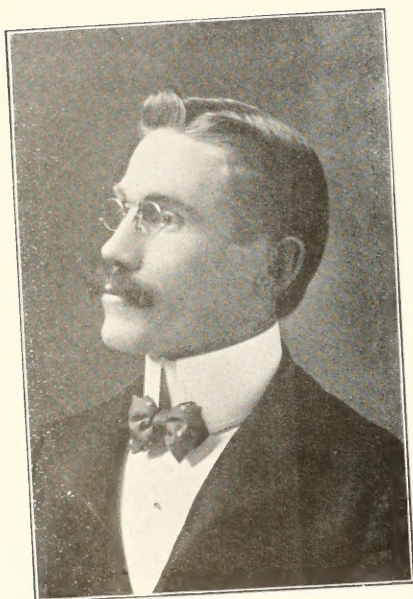
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Yours Truly  
A. D. Bunzey.

*HISTORY*  
*OF*  
Companies I and E, Sixth Regt.,  
Illinois Volunteer Infantry from Whiteside County.

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CONTAINING A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THEIR EXPERI-  
ENCES WHILE SERVING AS VOLUNTEERS IN  
THE PORTO RICAN CAMPAIGN DURING  
THE SPANISH-AMERICAN  
WAR OF 1898.

ALSO

A RECORD OF THE TWO COMPANIES AS STATE TROOPS  
FROM THE DATE OF ORGANIZATION  
TO APRIL 30TH, 1901.

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BY R. S. BUNZEY.

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IN THREE PARTS.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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MORRISON, ILLINOIS,  
1901.

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## TO THE READER:

It may be well to acquaint the reader with a few of the facts which brought about the idea of compiling and putting into book form the records of the two companies of volunteer soldiers, who represented Whiteside County in the Spanish American War of 1898. I do not flatter myself with the expectation that this work will be considered as in the line of histories as they are written today, this being my initial, and without a question of doubt, final attempt in this line. In recent years many such histories of the Civil War have been written by ex-soldiers and the lapse of time rendered the task an extremely difficult one. As time rolls on and the number of veterans grows less, the more valuable to those remaining, become the records which contain the detail of their soldier life. In view of these facts I determined on publishing an account of the experiences of companies I and E while the many details were yet clear and distinct. The material for the contents of the book consists chiefly in letters written in the various camps by Charles Hoobler, of company E, and myself, a high private in the rear rank of company I. These letters were published daily or weekly by the home papers and contain the correct dates of all movements besides many other items of interest which would now be difficult to obtain in any other manner.

In addition to this history, I deemed it nothing more

than just to include as briefly as possible a record of the organization and previous existence of the two companies as a portion of the Illinois National Guard who readily responded to the call for volunteers and by request of the President were given the preference over other civilian soldiers. The many difficulties met with, arising from the seeming inability to secure correct dates and facts covering the period between the organization of the companies and the outbreak of the Spanish American War, were partially overcome by the hearty co-operation and invaluable aid of members and ex-members of both companies. For this assistance I feel deeply indebted to them.

As a finale, and a fitting close to the following pages, a sketch of the present conditions of both companies has been utilized.

To the volunteer, present and ex-members of companies I and E and to their friends, this book is dedicated.

Respectfully

R. S. BUNZEY.

# PART I.





# HISTORY OF COMPANIES I AND E.

## CHAPTER I.

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### ORGANIZATION AND MUSTER-IN OF COMPANIES I AND E, SIXTH INFANTRY ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARDS, AND SUBSEQUENT EVENTS OCCUR- RING PREVIOUS TO THEIR VOLUNTEER SERVICE IN THE SPANISH-AMERI- CAN WAR OF 1898.

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#### COMPANY I.

Company I Sixth Infantry Illinois National Guards of to-day, was organized during the summer of 1878 and mustered into the service of the State on the 11th day of September of the same year, under the laws enacted by the Legislature and in force July 1st, 1877 which authorized the organization of such State troops. It was designated as Company C and assigned to the 14th Battalion, which was commanded at that period by Lieut. Col. W. P. Butler, with headquarters at Rock Island, Ills. The subject of forming a company of State militia was agitated more or less for some time by a number of veterans of the Civil War.

The promoters of the idea and most active and energetic in the work of organizing, were: Attorney George H. Fay, John Grierson and A. D. Hill, all of whom saw several years service in the war of the Rebellion; George Fay holding a Captain's commission in Company B 147th Illinois Infantry; John Grierson a 2nd Lieutenants commission in Company H 14th, New York Heavy Art.; and A. D. Hill serving in a Pennsylvania Regiment. These, with a number of other citizens, held several meetings in Attorney Fay's office. A paper was circulated about the town soliciting signatures of citizens capable of military duty and who were willing to aid in the organization of the company and serve the State should the required number be secured. In a very short time the following names were enrolled, a total of seventy-six, and a request made for a mustering officer to swear in the company:

A. D. Hill,	H. Nash,
George H. Fay,	C. H. Planthaber,
Cornelius Quackenbush,	F. M. Judd,
George Buckley,	William Winters,
George W. Stafford,	Milton Morse,
Ed. A. Worrell,	J. N. Jackson,
William Wilson,	Henry Brown,
Charles F. McKee,	J. A. Newbury,
Jacob Feldman,	S. Switzer,
Henry Minder,	George C. Wilcox,
A. C. McAlhster,	Frank Fitzgerald,
J. M. Williamson,	Peter Spears,
Fred Mathews,	J. N. Baird,
E. St. John,	Charles H. Trauger,
J. W. McKee,	W. B. McClary,
E. Blodgett,	C. W. Spears,



PRIVATE RICHARD YATES,  
Co. I, 5th Inf., Ill. N. G.,  
1885.

Governor of Ill. and Commander-in-Chief of  
the Military and Naval Forces,  
1901.





A. Farrington,	A. A. Mattern,
George B. Day.	F. M. Fox,
J. A. Nowlen,	M. R. Kelly,
John Grierson,	P. F. Hellerstedt,
H. H. Marshall.	F. E. Strawder,
C. M. Johnson,	Charles D. White,
Harry Sterling,	William Gishbel,
William Hogan,	William Kincade,
C. H. Marshall,	P. R. Boyd,
J. C. Childs,	H. S. Ferguson,
Henry Levitt,	James Dean,
William Anderson,	A. Richtmyer,
Frank E. James,	R. W. Sholes,
J. F. Wellington,	Z. T. Anderson,
G. B. Adams,	Frank Mann,
J. B. Kirman,	Daniel Bowdish,
C. F. Montague,	D. Bray,
William J. Reutlinger.	J. M. Murphy,
Charles P. Holt,	John Lucas,
Benjamin J. Atwater,	Curtis Johnson,
A. C. Buttery,	Clarence Clark,
F. J. Johnson,	D. J. Goodill.

For various reasons a number of those whose signatures appear on this roll, failed to take the oath at the time of the muster-in of the company; some were physically unable; others had business interests which in justice to themselves could not be neglected, yet all took a personal interest and contributed their moral and material support in the work until it became necessary for them to withdraw, when they stepped down and out, making way for others who were anxious to become a part of the company and were more conveniently situated to give the time and attention to drill and other

duties which would necessarily devolve upon them to secure and maintain a standard of efficiency which would prove a credit, not alone to themselves, but also to the town and state. Thus upon the arrival of the mustering officer, Captain Hawse of Moline, Adjutant of the 14th Battalion, the actual number in readiness to take the oath was but a portion of the total who had signified their willingness in the days previous. The company as mustered in on this date, Sept. 11th, 1878, is here given:

Captain.	George H. Fay.
1st. Lieutenant,	Cornelius Quackenbush.
2nd. Lieutenant,	John Grierson,
1st. Sergeant,	Alonzo Richtmyer,
1st Duty Sergeant,	George C. Wilson,
2nd " "	Z. T. Anderson.
3rd " "	Albert A. Mattern,
4th " "	George Buckley.
Corporal	Frank V. Johnson,
"	William Wilson.
"	Benjamin J. Atwater.
"	Peter Martin,
"	Milton Morse.
"	Clarence G. Clark.
"	Oscar Rounds,
"	Henry Levitt,
Musician	Charles Trauger,
Private	Bogart, Cornelius
"	Buttery, Arthur C.
"	Bray, Dennis
"	Bartholomew, George L.
"	Bowdish, Daniel G.
"	Casey, William

Private	Dean, James
"	Fox, Frank M.
"	Gilroy, Edward A.
"	Honcler, Augustus
"	Hendricks, Jesse Y.
"	Hanna, Robert H.
"	Haskin, Ezra C.
"	Humphrey, Erastus B.
"	Johnson, John
"	Johnson, Curtis
"	Kinney, James
"	Mouck, Solomon F.
"	Marshall, Charles H.
"	Montague, Charles F.
"	Nash, Henry G.
"	Planthaber, Charles
"	Reutlinger, Henry G.
"	Story, James
"	Strawn, Frank H.
"	Worrell, Edward A.
"	Wood, Robert

Making a total of three commissioned officers and forty-one enlisted men. The men as a company, were highly elated by the success so far attained and the recruiting was energetically continued, which soon resulted in a company with a full complement of enlisted men. Several, who were unavoidably detained from being present at the time of the muster in of the company by sickness and absence from the city, took advantage of the first opportunity to enroll their names on the company roster.

The choice of commissioned officers proved to be an extremely wise selection; their knowledge of military

affairs had been gained in a school where war was a cold fact and they had been taught the value and necessity of strict obedience and discipline. The company was the beneficiary of the experiences of these drilled men, and, composed as it was, largely of veterans, its members quickly attained a proficiency in military tactics, of which they were justly proud. With few exceptions, the rule established at this early date has been rigidly adhered to and a great deal of consideration has been given to the selection of commissioned officers, as to the fitness and ability of the candidate for the position to which he aspired, which could be obtained only through the ballots of the enlisted men and, if, at any time they have considered themselves unfortunate in this regard, they, and they alone were responsible, as the power was in their hands to place in these positions men of ability and of their own choice, thus leaving them no room for a grievance in not doing so.

For several years this company was widely known as the "Morrison Rifles," just how and where it derived this title it has been impossible to learn, and to-day should it be referred to as such, very few would understand the reference as anything in connection with company I, only in a dreamy, misty manner of something suddenly recalled to the mind which had been nearly, if not quite forgotten.

The first arms issued it by the State were muzzle loading rifles of the Enfield pattern and it was several years before it was enabled to secure breechloading guns, and then only by dint of continually petitioning the Adjutant General of the State to equip the men with an arm which was not obsolete and practically out of date as a service arm.





BRIG. GEN. J. N. REECE,  
Adj. Gen.



For an armory and drill room, the basement of the old frame building which stood on the lot now occupied by the Hub Clothing Store was secured, remaining here but a short time, the company removed to the City Council room, and shortly afterward to the second floor of Hollar Smith's blacksmith shop on east Main street. At that time the members considered themselves extremely fortunate in being so snugly located. From here they "trekked" to Milne's opera house, and later to the old skating rink on Grove street where they were at home at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War.

Very little attention was given to target practice for several years. The cause for the lack of enthusiasm in this respect was accounted for in the difficulty in securing the necessary ammunition and ordnance supplies with which to carry on a successful shoot, saying nothing of the expense connected with the building of rifle butts etc., for which the men were compelled to secure funds without expense to the State. The officers higher in command of the troops evidently took but little interest in this matter which today, is considered a very essential feature in determining the efficiency of the National Guard. The fact now being recognized that while the men may be proficient in the manual of arms and precise in executing maneuvers they would be of little value in actual service without some experience in the care and handling of the rifle. Not alone in this matter were the men expected to defray their own expenses; each member was obliged to equip himself with a uniform at a cost of seven dollars.

What would the Guardsmen of today think of the proposition of purchasing the uniforms they wear?

Would they do it? It is hardly probable. They would stand aghast at the suggestion of such an absurd idea; and to consider that the State placed so little value on our voluntary service would be likened to the shaking of a red mantle in the face of an angry bull, and the recruiting officers must needs to have made a "fine art" of their work should they hope to retain a "corporals guard" in the ranks. A great many surprising things are found in searching the files of the early correspondence of the company. There appears to have been no understanding between the State authorities and the railroads by which troops could be moved on short notice. The transportation of a company meant days of correspondence regarding the manner in which the settlement should be made, the company commander being expected to make the necessary arrangements for the handling of his men. These were a few of the obstacles with which the men and officers were obliged to contend in those days, and the most surprising feature of it all is, that the National Guard could exist under the regulations in force at that time.

Company C attended its first State encampment at Camp Cullom, at Springfield, September 16th to 19th, 1879, bringing with it on its return home an excellent report of the condition of the company as measured by the standard of other troops present. For this encampment the 2nd Brigade received no compensation whatever, at least Company C did not, on account of lack of funds, and for this reason there was no encampment the following two years. That portion of the appropriation made for this purpose by the State, being distributed among the different regimental and company commanders for the benefit of their commands. The first

public parade the company participated in was at Morrison, July 4th, 1879. Company B of Moline, commanded by Captain William C. Bennett, was invited and was present and the two companies made a fine appearance; it being the first military parade in the city, since immediately after the Civil War.

The year following, and with few exceptions, each Memorial day since, an invitation has been extended to them from the G. A. R. Post to participate in the ceremonies on that day. July 3rd, 1880, by invitation, the company went to Mt. Carroll, Ill., taking part in the celebration of Independence Day, (the 4th falling on Sunday.)

In September, the same year, it attended the Sterling Fair in a body, camping on the grounds the 15th, 16th and 17th., returning the evening of the 17th. While there, it acted as escort for General Grant and Governor Cullom.

In July 1880, William Clendenin was commissioned Lieut. Colonel and placed in command of the 14th Battalion, establishing headquarters at Moline. William Clendenin was born and reared in Morrison; he served two years in the war of the Rebellion, enlisting as a private and being promoted, step by step, from the ranks, and on March 21st, 1866 was mustered out of the service as 1st Lieut. of Company A, 108th U. S. Colored Infantry. He removed to Moline in 1871. Becoming interested in the National Guard in its infancy, he was commissioned 2nd Lieut. of Company B (afterward Company F) and held successively, the rank of 1st Lieut. and Captain, and was made Major of the 14th Battalion, May 30th, 1879, and Lieut. Colonel in July, 1880. In 1882 the National Guard of Illinois was re-

organized and he was elected Colonel of the Sixth Regiment May 17th of that year, being twice re-elected to the command of the Sixth. December 28th, 1892, he was promoted by Governor Fifer to the rank of Brigadier General and assigned to command the Third Brigade, Governor Altgeld removing him March 28th, 1893. In April 1898, Governor Tanner appointed him Inspector of the Illinois National Guard, with the rank of Colonel. During the following May he organized a provisional regiment and tendered its services to the U. S. Government in case there should be a call for more troops during the war with Spain. Among the Field and Staff of this regiment were, his son Frank J. Clendenin, Major; and Thaddeus L. Rounds, Assistant Surgeon, both well known to many citizens of Whiteside county. May 15th, 1899 Governor Tanner replaced him in command of the Third Brigade with the rank of Brigadier General, which commission he yet retains.

General Clendenin's record in the Illinois National Guard, is an enviable one. He has held every commissioned office in the service from 2nd Lieutenant to that of Brigadier General, and is the proud possessor of ten commissions issued to him by the Governors of Illinois. Not alone this, but in his career as an officer, he has won the respect and esteem of all the men who have served under him, and in the history of the Illinois National Guard, his name will be given an honored place.

The effect of having no State encampment for two years, was very demoralizing to the company; 2nd Lieut. Grierson had resigned in the summer of 1879, Sheriff E. A. Worrell succeeding him; Lieut. Worrell resigning in September 1880, this vacancy being filled by the election of E. P. Stokes who resigned in 1882;





BRIG. GEN. WM. CLENDENIN,  
Commanding Third Brigade.



Captain Fay also resigned in 1882; 1st Lieut. Quackenbush having resigned in September, 1881, his successor being Z. T. Anderson, who resigned in April, 1882. This found the company without a commissioned officer, the command devolving upon Sergeant E. B. Humphrey, and appears to have been a very critical period in its history. It was seemingly on the point of dissolution, and in all probability would have been disbanded, had not Frank Clendenin, a brother of General Clendenin, and post master at that time, accepted a commission in the company. He was unanimously elected 1st Lieutenant in June 1882, Curtis Johnson being commissioned 2nd Lieutenant at the same time. Lieut. Clendenin was promoted to Captain and 2nd Lieut. Johnson to the rank of 1st Lieutenant the following August with William Brearton succeeding as 2nd Lieutenant, which commission he retained until his removal from the state in 1883.

With Captain Clendenin in command and the able assistance rendered by Lieutenants Johnson and Brearton the organization received a new impetus and was rapidly re-built and strengthened until it once more attained a desirable standing. But this tranquility was not of long duration. During the tour of camp duty at Springfield in 1882, which was the first since 1879, Captain Clendenin was appointed Aid-de-Camp, with the rank of Colonel, on Governor Cullom's Staff from the 7th Congressional District. He retained this commission through the administrations of Governors Cullom, Hamilton, Oglesby and Fifer, until June 1889, when he removed from the 7th District. The loss of Captain Clendenin was a severe one to the company. He was a veteran of the Civil War, having entered the service as

Captain, commanding Company B., 147th Illinois Infantry and shortly promoted to Major, which rank he retained until the close of the war. He was an able successor to the command, following the resignation of Captain Fay, the men parting from him with regret. At about this time 1st Lieut. Johnson tendered his resignation. In November, Cornelius Quackenbush was commissioned Captain, and Sergeant N. James Cole 1st Lieutenant.

## CHAPTER II.

The Illinois National Guard was re-organized in the year of 1882, the 14th Battalion being merged into the Sixth Regiment with Lieut. Colonel Clendenin, commissioned Colonel, in command. It was at this time that Company C was designated as Company I.

D. J. Foster of Chicago was appointed Lieut. Colonel; H. T. DePue, Major; John H. Porter, Regimental Quartermaster with the rank of 1st. Lieutenant, and Ed. Kittilsen, Sergeant Major of the regiment.

In the formation of regiments there were no such divisions as Battalions, consequently there was but one Major and one Adjutant. During encampment there were regimental and company drills and occasionally the regiment would be made up into divisions, the command of each division falling to the ranking Captain and in this manner attaining something similar to the Battalion formation of today.

Lieut Colonel Foster was twice re-elected, and on January 13th, 1893, he was commissioned Colonel of the Sixth Regiment, which position he has held continuously up to the present time.

Sergeant Major Ed Kittilsen first entered the military service in an independent organization in 1875, and in 1877, when the Illinois National Guard was organized he enlisted in the 14th Battalion, was promoted to Regimental Sergeant Major, and appointed Major in 1886.

and on January 13th, 1893, was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of the Sixth Regiment, serving in this capacity up to the present time.

The affairs of Company I (as it is now designated) ran quite smoothly for some time. Encampments were held annually. For three successive years, 1882, 1883 and 1884, the camp grounds were located about five miles north-east of Springfield, and officially named Camp Logan. The year following, 1885, the location was changed to one and a half miles north and east of the city and named Camp Dickey. About this time the state purchased the grounds where Camp Lincoln is now located, and a permanent camp-ground established. Camp Lincoln lies about two miles north-west of Springfield and is a very desirable location. Just inside the entrance gate lies the wide drill and parade ground; bordering on this and running north, is the camp ground proper, where the tents are pitched. This ground is thinly studded with shade trees. In the rear of this is found the large swimming pool, built of masonry, and yet farther back and to the left, is located the rifle range.

The only serious drawback to Camp Lincoln is found in the drinking water, which is carried to the grounds from the city in pipes running on top of the ground for a long distance, making the water very warm and it is anything but a pleasant drink. This contributes a great deal to the sickness which appears in camp soon after the arrival of the troops. The street car line has been extended to the grounds and terminates just outside the entrance gate, making the city quickly and easily reached.

Camp week is looked forward to, for months. It is the one incentive, urging the men to extra work, in





Entrance gate at Camp Lincoln.

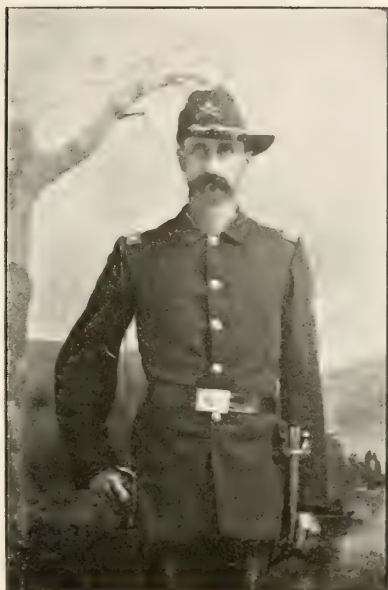


preparing themselves to appear before the public as soldiers. It is the only break in an otherwise monotonous, un-remunerative, voluntary service and is very beneficial to the troops, bringing the officers and men of the regiment in contact with each other, where discipline and obedience are not only expected, but demanded; teaching the men that a soldier's life is based upon those two principles; also teaching them the duties of a soldier in many ways. The knowledge thus gained being invaluable, and attainable in no other manner. Why the friends at home continue to retain such an erroneous idea regarding the actions of the men while at camp, has always been a mystery. There is nothing to warrant this injustice. Is it a cause for wonderment then that many desirable young men, who otherwise would gladly enter the service, for this reason are deterred from doing so? They have given weeks and months, without recompense, in making preparations for this week of duty. After a hard day's work in the store or shop, or at their trade, it is necessary to devote hours to instructing themselves in the duties of a soldier, which, although it may have its attractions, is never-the-less hard work. Without the support of friends at home, what inducement is there for a company commander to neglect his own personal affairs and devote the necessary time to his company to fit the men to appear before the people of the state, and the Governor, their commander-in-chief, who are ever ready to criticise, reflecting on the fitness of this or that officer for the position which he holds. If the men, as soldiers, fall below a certain standard, the public will ask, "are we being taxed for the support and maintenance of those untrained, poorly drilled men who dare to call themselves soldiers?" And the public is justified in de-

manding something more from the soldier, than merely being able to wear the uniform of the state and carry the rifle at a right shoulder, but in return it should respect these same men for this voluntary service and should contribute its moral support to the work of securing and maintaining a degree of efficiency, which will reflect credit on the officers, the men and the State.

Following the resignation of Lieut. Brearton in March 1883, Charles F. Montague was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant, resigning in May 1884, being succeeded by Sergeant E. B. Humphrey in June 1884; Captain Quackenbush resigned in April 1884, Lieut. Cole succeeding him in the command of the company; W. F. Colebaugh was elected 1st Lieutenant in January 1884 and was promoted to the rank of Captain upon the resignation of Captain Cole which occurred in March 1885, Henry Griffiths being elected 1st Lieutenant in April.

September 5th, 1885, the company was an attraction at the Morrison Fair. While in attendance at the Sterling Fair, one week later, it first met the Chicago Zouaves and after witnessing their fancy drill, decided to organize a corps. This consisted of twelve finely drilled men and a Captain. They soon attained a degree of efficiency and precision in the intricate, silent drill which they adopted, which would warrant their appearing in public, and they rarely failed in giving general satisfaction in their performance. After an appearance in Clinton, Ia., where they had been secured as an attraction at a celebration, the Clinton Daily News had this to say regarding them: "Following the Rifles, a company of Zouaves from Morrison, Illinois, gave an unique drill. Attired in their novel uniform, they attracted much attention and gave an interesting drill, performing their various



N. J. COLE,  
Capt. Co. I, 111. N. G.  
Showing style of uniform worn in  
the 80's.



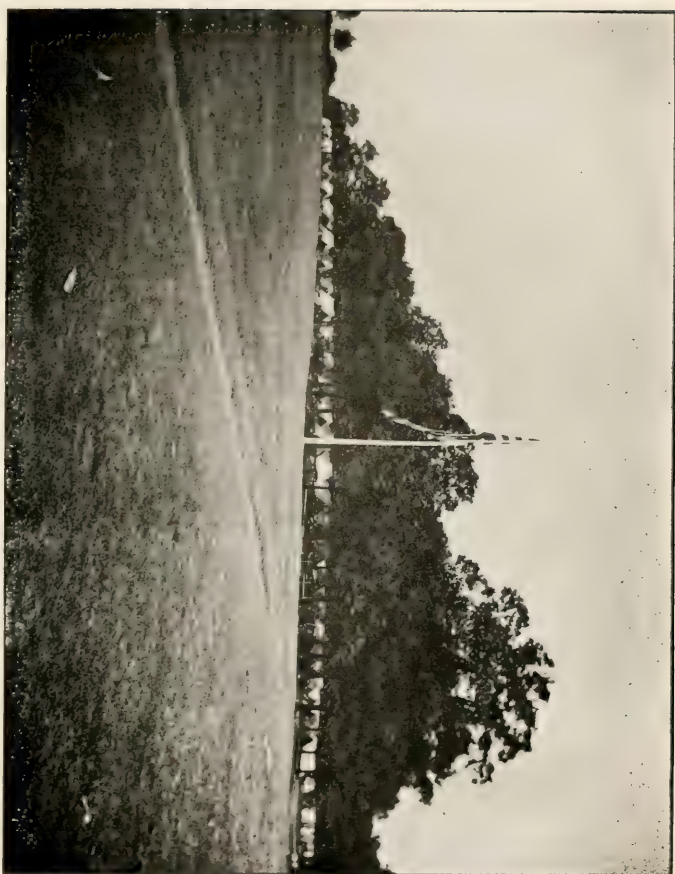


movements with much rapidity and precision. In retiring from the field, the company made a charge upon a fence, some twelve feet in height, erected in the centre of the park, which they scaled with but little effort. The front rank, upon reaching the barricade, stooped their heads and those following mounted upon their shoulders and from there grasped the top of the fence and were over in a twinkling. This was continued until only one man remained below. How this man would get over was quickly settled by two comrades above lowering a gun, which was grasped, and he was drawn up over, amid loud applause. This closed the finest military drill ever seen in this city, if not in the state of Iowa."

This will give the reader an idea as to what constituted a part of their performance and the success they attained in delivering it. The expenses for maintaining such an organization were rather more than was anticipated, and after a season or two, with varying success financially, they disbanded. Another corps was formed later but was of short life, meeting with the same difficulties as the former corps, in securing financial support.

April 1st, 1886, Captain Colebaugh and 2nd Lieut. Humphrey resigned. Two weeks later the company was ordered to East St. Louis and was on duty there during the Martin Iron strike. It entered this service with depleted ranks: not more than twenty-five enlisted men and one commissioned officer, 1st Lieut. H. H. Griffiths. An election of officers was held shortly after its arrival upon the scene which resulted in the selection of Lieut. Griffiths as Captain; T. S. Beach 1st. Lieut., and John M. Colebaugh, 2nd Lieutenant. Lieutenant Beach, who was Sheriff of Whiteside County at the time, had been serving as a private. The St. Louis

experiences were varied and many. One of the boys, through nervousness and over excitement, ran his bayonet through a stray pig which was rooting about the guard line and then deserted his post, thinking the steel had entered the heart of some rioter, who had been intent on taking his life. In all probability fresh pork was a necessary adjunct to the bill of fare for some days following. The company also charged and captured a cannon(?) in following its line of duty. This it retained as a trophy of the exploit, and is with the company to-day, very few of the men knowing how or where it was secured. The service at this riot covered a period of fifteen days, from April twenty-first to May fifth, and on it's return it first realized how lightly the services of the National Guard were valued. The State generously meted out to each the mere pittance of forty nine cents per diem, corresponding with the pay allowance of the regular army. Serious trouble was narrowly averted by the State as the enlisted men of the Illinois National Guard strongly objected to leaving good positions, commanding good salaries, to stand guard and perform other irksome duties during riots or other disturbances for the pay of the regular army man, and the troops from all over the state protested so strongly that the Legislature took the matter up and it resulted in a material increase in their salary while on such duties, fixing a rate of two dollars per day for all enlisted men. This timely action taken by the State overcame the then present difficulties and produced a very salutary effect on the State troops. Their conduct and soldierly bearing, together with the yeoman service performed when called for duty, was considered worthy of recognition by the people, to whom the memories of the soldier life of the Civil War



Camp Lincoln, Springfield.



were yet clear and vivid, and who realized that the services of the men who stood ready and willing to go where duty called in the cause of justice and good government, should not go unrewarded. From this time the State troops have steadily improved in efficiency.

1st Lieutenant Beach resigned in January 1887, and William Brearton, who had returned to Morrison, to reside, was commissioned 1st Lieutenant to fill the vacancy. Previous to this and shortly following his second enlistment, Lieut. Brearton had been appointed Regimental Commissary Sergeant, which position he held at the time of receiving his commission. Captain Griffiths resigned in April 1888, William Colebaugh again succeeding to the command of the company, retaining his commission until the expiration of his term of service, three years. 2nd Lieut. John Colebaugh remained with the company until 1889, his commission expired in April of this year, and Harry T. Guffin was elected to the rank which he vacated.

Looking backward a few months, we find our neighboring city, of Sterling, had been deeply interested, for some time past, in the forming of a company of State Guards. Let us leave company I for a brief period and follow the fortunes of the boys of our sister city.

## CHAPTER III.

## COMPANY E.

Company E was organized and mustered into the State service at Sterling, Ill., in the spring of 1888. Some years previous a company of militia had existed there, known as the "Sterling City Guards." This organization disbanded some five years prior to the organization of Company E., and military matters remained very quiet for a time until the subject of forming a company of State Guards was taken up and agitated by a number of citizens of the town, among whom were John W. Niles, Dr. Frank Anthony and T. S. Beach. These men were chiefly instrumental in organizing and developing the company and devoted considerable time to the work in order to secure a desirable membership of young men, and in various ways building the foundation in such a manner as to interest the towns-people in the future of the company, permanently securing the location of this company of National Guards.

John Niles saw service in an Iowa regiment throughout the Civil War. The knowledge thus secured proved to be most valuable and he was naturally looked upon as the leader in the work.

Dr. Anthony, a life long resident of Sterling and widely known as a physician of more than ordinary



ability and Thos. S. Beach, ex-sheriff of Whiteside county and an ex-member of Company I of Morrison, with the hearty co-operation of a number of other influential citizens, added their combined efforts in bringing the venture to a successful termination. Not long after the idea originated, the desired membership was secured and Colonel T. Ewert, Assistant Adjutant General of the State came to Sterling by request to administer the oath and on March 24th, 1888, the following company was mustered into the service.

Captain,	John W. Niles.
1st Lieutenant,	Thomas S. Beach.
2nd Lieutenant,	Frank Anthony.
1st Sergeant	John A. Haberer.
2nd Sergeant,	Lewis F. Eisele.
3rd     "	Walter N. Haskell.
4th     "	Goodcil B. Dillon.
5th     "	Samuel T. Mangan.
Corporal,	Charles S. Hall.
"	Frank D. Ely.
"	James F. Criswell.
"	Orville P. Bassett.
Private	Angell, William E.
"	Adair, Ambrose.
"	Burke, Harry T.
"	Bickford, Joseph M.
"	Boyers, Joseph.
"	Crawford, Robert G.
"	Connor, John R.
"	Cook, Ward W.
"	Cochrane, Albert G.
"	Cushman, John W.
"	Grimes, Frank A.

Private	Hoover, Harry G.
"	Hills, Edward O.
"	Hess, Albert H.
"	Howland, Harry T.
"	Haberly, Frank F.
"	Haskell, William W.
"	Johnson, J. Stanley.
"	Kline, John L.
"	Lawrie, William F.
"	Llewellyn, David.
"	Mangan, William F.
"	Mangan, E. J.
"	Mangan, R. L.
"	Myer, Adam B.
"	Osmer, Sydney C.
"	Rock, Edwin S.
"	Stoddard, Fred R.
"	Shumaker, Charles N.
"	Smith, Jesse.
"	Van Horne, E. Burt.
"	Woods, Rollin H.
"	Woodworth, Clarence
"	Williams, Albert A.
"	Williams, B. Frank.
"	Winters, James C.

The company was designated as E and attached to the Sixth Regiment. Each member immediately put a shoulder to the wheel and made every effort to establish a degree of efficiency, second to none in the regiment, in which they were more than successful.

It is admitted by those familiar with the affairs of the Sixth that this company has always retained a very desirable position in the ranks having been well officer-



BRIG. GEN. CHAS. FITZSIMONS,  
Commanding First Brigade.



ed and fortunate in securing desirable members. The Wallace Hall which was located on the present site of the Masonic Temple was secured as a drill room and for a short time was the home of the company, later removing to the old skating rink where it remained about two years when the present armory was leased and afterward purchased, remodeled and enlarged, making a one story drill room forty feet in width by one hundred feet in length with a two story front. This building is located north of 4th, on Locust street.

During the first few years, each member was assessed \$2.00 membership fee and an additional sum annually. The receipts from this source being added to the company fund account and in this manner they were enabled to secure the necessary amount with which to meet the running expenses, avoiding the embarrassing situation of an accumulation of unpaid bills, and placing themselves on a substantial footing financially. It is quite evident to a close observer that company E has been very fortunate in almost every manner from the first. As before stated, its members have devoted a great deal of energy in attaining a very creditable degree of proficiency in military tactics. They have from the first been very careful in the selection of both commissioned and non-commissioned officers and in addition, they early secured and retained the respect of their home people, which means more to, and has a greater degree of influence with the Guardsmen than the general public may be aware of. At any time could be found a half dozen or more Company E boys attached to the regimental commissioned or non-commissioned staff, thus placing them in a situation whereby unwonted favors were easily secured and taken advantage of to the

benefit of the individual members of the company which were highly appreciated and gave an added interest to the work, creating a feeling of good fellowship between the company members and the regimental officers, a very pleasing situation for all concerned. The general condition of the company has remained normal during its entire history, giving but few opportunities for a great amount of noise to be made at any certain period, yet producing a coveted condition of affairs and reflecting credit on the officers and men alike.

Target practice has always been considered a very important factor in establishing individual records in the company. During the first few years it was unable to secure a suitable range, and was compelled to purchase its own ammunition. The only site available was the old base ball park located in the northern part of town. This was leased for a short time, but the range being limited to 100 and 200 yards it was handicapped to such an extent as to make it necessary for it to procure a more desirable location which it did the following year. This range was fitted up at the expense of the company and was located about three miles east of town on the banks of Rock river, the full 1000 yard practice being available, making it one of the best rifle ranges in the State, and for a number of years was used more or less by the neighboring companies. The shooting done on the old 200 yard range resulted very unsatisfactorily and a number of the company went down to Sublette, Ill., where was located a 1000 yard range, and B. F. Williams here secured the first decoration as "Sharpshooter", and Major Lawrie, then a private returned an "Expert." Since procuring the 1000 yard home range a large number of the members have

qualified as "Marksman," "Expert," and "Sharpshooter" in addition to these are a half dozen or more "Distinguished Sharpshooters" among whom are B. F. Williams, Major Lawrie, Captain Eick, S. T. Mangan and Sergt. John Cushman. Captain Eick deserves special mention in connection with marksmen of Illinois. His skill in the handling of a rifle has placed him in the front ranks among the expert marksmen of the United States and he possesses numerous decorations which he has won in competitive shoots. For several years he has been Regimental Inspector of Rifle Practice with rank of Captain, and during this time he has been the coach for several teams of marksmen who have entered the competitive contest for the "Washburn Trophy" which is still held in the office of the Adjutant General of this State subject to be contested for by the states of Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois.

The decoration of a Distinguished Sharpshooter in the National Guard places the holder on an equal footing with the Sharpshooter in the Regular Army when considering qualities of a marksman.

The rifle butt on the new range was destroyed by the wind in the early 90's. rebuilt by the company and equipped with steel frame targets by the State. In 1899, fire destroyed the butts and on account of a shortage of funds they have not since been repaired.

Upon the company's return from Camp Lincoln in 1888, the citizens of Sterling presented it with a large silk flag which has since been used as the company colors and at the present time is in the hands of the W. R. C. who are replacing the white silk stripes which had become badly tattered in the thirteen years of service.

From the period of the muster in of Company E,



it has joined fortunes with Company I, and with the exception of the affairs personal to members of the individual companies they have been as one. Captain Niles resigned the command of Company E in December 1888, 2nd Lieut. Anthony succeeding him. The resignation of Lieut. Beach had occurred in November, the vacancy thus caused being filled by the election of Sergt. Lewis F. Eisele. Upon the promotion of Lieut. Anthony, private W. F. Lawrie was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant. Lieut. Eisele's resignation occurred in October 1890, following which came the advancement in rank of Lieut. Lawrie to that of 1st Lieut., Sergt. Walter N. Haskell succeeding him as 2nd Lieutenant.

Captain Anthony relinquished command of the company late in the year of 1890. At this time he received the appointment of Assistant Surgeon with the rank of Captain and on February 27th, 1891, was promoted to Surgeon of the regiment and commissioned a Major. This position he retained for more than eight years resigning on August 2nd, 1899. No appointment was made to fill this vacancy until December 29th, 1900, when Major Anthony was prevailed upon to again accept the commission.

Lieut. Lawrie was commissioned Captain; 2nd Lieut. Haskell promoted to the rank of 1st, and Sergt. G. B. Dillon, 2nd Lieut. Captain Lawrie was twice re-elected, retaining command of the company until January 5th 1899 when he was elected Major of the regiment and placed in command of the third battalion. Lieut. Haskell and Dillon retained their respective rank for a period of nearly four years. In the month of October, 1894 1st Lieut. Haskell tendered his resignation and Lieut. Dillon succeeded him, Edwin S. Johnson being elected 2nd



COL. GEORGE M. MOULTON,  
Inspector General.



Lieut., resigning in April 1897, when J. Frank Wahl was commissioned as such.

In the spring of 1898, Lieut. Haskell organized a company of volunteers which was a part of Gen'l Clendenin's provisional regiment, but was not called into active service.

## CHAPTER IV.

Returning to the affairs of Company I, it is found several changes have occurred in the commissioned officers. Upon the expiration of his term of service as 2nd Lieut. in April 1889, John Colebaugh severed his connection with the Guard and during the following month Harry T. Guffin was commissioned to this rank. In May 1890 he was promoted to 1st Lieut. following the termination of the commission of Lieut. Brearton, resigning in June, 1891.

Captain Colebaugh's commission expired in May 1891. Sergt. Milford Johnson succeeding him, his resignation occurring in April 1892. Sergt. Merritt Stowe was elected 1st Lieut. in July 1891 and Captain in June 1892, resigning in October of the same year.

Sergt. S. Wellington Baker was commissioned 2nd Lieut. in May 1890, his resignation being accepted in July 1891, the election of A. Rollin Baird to fill the vacancy thus caused occurred in August. Lieut. Baird resigned in April 1893, and Harry Guffin was again elected 2nd Lieut. in May. S. W. Baker was elected 1st Lieut. in June 1892 and resigned in June 1893, 2nd Lieut. Guffin succeeding him in July 1893.

Upon the resignation of Captain Stowe in 1892, William Colebaugh was for the third time commissioned Captain, remaining in command of the company until October 19th, 1895. 1st Lieut. Guffin was elected Captain, resigning in June, 1896. Following the promotion of

2nd Lieut. Guffin to the rank of 1st Lieutenant, came the election of George H. Kentfield, who was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in July 1893, resigning March 20th, 1894, Edward C. Lawton succeeding him in April and elected 1st Lieutenant in May 1895.

Following the election of Captain Guffin, Walter H. Clark was then commissioned 2nd Lieutenant and retained this rank until June 1896 when he resigned and Charles Puddifoot was elected in his stead. Lieut. Puddifoot also tendered his resignation in June 1897, his successor being Ernest J. Weaver. Lieutenant Weaver resigned at Camp Tanner, May 14th, 1898.

Upon the resignation of Captain Guffin in 1896, William Colebaugh was once again placed in command of the company serving in this capacity throughout the Spanish-American War.

The company accepted an invitation from Company C of Galesburg and was present at a reception given to President Harrison in that city on October 8th, 1890. The President was attending a reunion of his Brigade of Civil War veterans which was held there at the time.

In drawing a comparison between the general condition of the two companies during the first six years of the existence of each company, we find following closely upon each other that seventeen commissions had been issued to as many officers in Company I and during this same period from April 22nd, to June 8th, 1882, the command of the company fell to the lot of a Sergeant, an unproductive and undesirable condition of affairs, which took a large amount of hard work and considerable time to overcome.

Referring to the records of Company E covering the same number of years, it is found a total of eleven

commissions were issued.

Carefully scanning the roster of commissioned officers of both companies, and by drawing the contrast more sharply, the reader will find the issuing of the commissions to Company E officers was the result of nearly as many promotions, while the unequal number credited to Company I was caused mostly by resignations. This has a deeper meaning than appears on the surface, taking into consideration that a resignation usually indicates dissatisfaction somewhere, while the changes brought about by the promotions show a more settled, normal condition, which not alone affects the officers and enlisted men of the company, but also secures the confidence of the citizens with whom they come in contact. This confidence once lost is difficult to regain and is very likely to result in gradually losing interest in the affairs of the company and procuring a release at the first opportunity.

Following the records on down through the entire life of each organization, they show that a total of thirteen Captains commissions have been issued to company I during the twenty three years of its existence, the present commander holding number thirteen, but happily he is not superstitious.

Fifteen commissions were issued to 1st Lieutenants and eighteen to 2nd Lieutenants covering this same period, a total of forty six commissions in the twenty three years, or an average of one commissioned officer every six months.

Company E has in the thirteen years, been commanded by four different Captains, seconded by six 1st Lieutenants and eight 2nd Lieutenants, in all eighteen officers, making an average of one officer for each nine





Group of Co. I boys at Camp Lincoln, 1895.



months. The number of resignations occurring in Company I shows a total of twenty-six as compared with eight in Company E.

It does not necessitate the mind of a "Sherlock Holmes" or the imaginative power of a Jules Verne, for one to draw a few modest conclusions regarding the effect of the varying conditions and numerous changes which the records show have existed in the one company compared with the apparently even tenor of the life of the other.

In drawing the above comparisons, the writer has endeavored to give the reader the facts as they appear in the official records of the two companies. The object in producing them in this manner is to explain why the early history of Company E appears more brief and possibly, uninteresting, than that of Company I. Company I was mustered into the service ten years in advance of Company E, and this, when the Illinois National Guard was comparatively in its infancy.

Ten years brought numerous radical changes in the regulations causing more or less trouble and dissatisfaction in the Guard throughout the State and naturally made it extremely unpleasant for the members of the different companies individually, until matters became more settled. All of these difficulties were arranged quite satisfactorily prior to the muster in of Company E, and aside from this there appears to have been an unusually thorough understanding between the officers and men of this company with few unpleasantities arising among themselves, consequently their path has been a comparatively smooth one with but little up hill business connected with it. On the other hand, Company I has passed through some very trying and serious periods.

For a time, everything would move along smoothly enough and the sun would shine on it, then would come a slump as sudden and disastrous as the ruin wrought by the corn king "Phillips" when he squeezed the shorts until they begged for mercy.

The dissolution of Company I has been seriously considered more than once, and but for the intercession of influential friends, who came forward at the last hour, would in all probability have been a thing of the past ere this. All of these happenings make history, and gives an added interest to the work of securing the data covering the periods of the company's varying fortunes.

The annual tour of camp duty at Camp Lincoln has always found Company E present with a full quota of men where they were given an opportunity to show the progress made yearly and compare their success with that of other troops present.

## CHAPTER V.

The regular routine of drill at home, and at camp was continued some time without a break of any sort, barring the lightning changes sometimes made in the officers of Company I. The first incident of interest occurred on the return from Camp Lincoln in 1892. The train bearing the troops made a brief stop near Beardstown. Within view of the boys was a melon field of some twenty or thirty acres.—The sight of a melon always appeals to the heart (or stomach) of a soldier and he is never contented to see them lying about, without in some manner being able to secure one or more. With melons in sight, comes the thought of a “lark” and the soldier who procures the largest number without expense to himself, is envied by all of his comrades. For this reason, few, if any fruit venders dare venture to make a trip through camp with a load of them as they soon become acquainted with the intoxicating effect it has on the soldiers.—As the train slowed down and came to a standstill, several hundred pairs of eyes were glued on the neighboring fields. Some one said “melons” the word was passed through the train in half the time it takes to tell it. But how to get them was a serious matter as guards were posted at each car door with instructions to allow no one to pass in or out unless he be a commissioned officer. The boys could not look for aid from the officers in this matter, but for some cause the officers had other important business about

this time and few were in sight. This was their opportunity and out of the car windows and into the melon field they went. In a short time melons came flying in through every window. About this stage of the proceedings, an old man appeared on the scene, closely followed by a mammoth bull dog, and the boys hustled back to the cars and pushed and pulled each other in through the windows. By this time the train was ready to proceed and in a moment rolled away, leaving the angry farmer shaking his clenched fist at the receding cars. What he said or thought could only be imagined as he was too far distant to be heard and the boys were too busily engaged plugging the melons, in their search for a ripe one, to have given him any attention had he been present. The search for an edible melon continued for some few moments, but resulted in a flat failure. They were all too green to be eaten. The boys were not a little chagrined to find they had exerted themselves so willingly and were repaid in a half a carload of green melons, and they reluctantly tossed them out of the cars.

When the officers appeared and angrily inquired of the men what they had been doing, asking each one if he had not heard and fully understood the order to remain in the cars, every one to a man, swore they had not been out of their seats while the train was at a standstill and that they did not even see the melon patch. The pieces of melon found on the car floor, they said, were thrown in by the boys from the next car, who were all out.

Shortly after the arrival home, Captains Lawrie and Stowe received a letter from Col. Clendenin, in which he said he had sent a committee to Beardstown





COL. HENRY S. DIETRICH.  
General Inspector of Rifle Practice.





to investigate the matter and make a settlement with the old gentleman. The amount paid, with the expense of making this settlement, made it necessary to assess each company \$12.00. He instructed the company commanders to take such measures as they deemed best to secure the amount from the guilty parties and in addition each man, who took part in the affair should at least, be reprimanded, trusting that "nothing of the kind would again occur in the existence of the Sixth Regiment."

It appears that the members of Company I stoutly maintained their innocence to the last and in some manner avoided the payment of any portion of the assessment. Company E was less fortunate or better situated financially, at least the boys paid the amount called for and this closed the incident officially, but it is recalled today by the older members of the Guard as rather a disgraceful affair.

The writer was a member of Company I at the time and has made the same trip several times since, but has never known of the train making the stop at this point again; and the old familiar ground is passed with bowed heads and closed eyes.

On December 28th, 1892 the Third Infantry, Sixth Infantry and Cavalry troop B, were relieved from duty with the First and Second Brigades respectively, and were organized into and designated as the Third Brigade. William Clendenin was appointed Brigadier General commanding.

January 13th, 1893, Lieut. Colonel Foster was commissioned Colonel, establishing headquarters at Chicago. Major Ed Kittilsen Lieut. Colonel, and William T. Channon, Major of the Sixth Regiment.

Major Channon has been connected with the Na-

tional Guard of Illinois since 1877, when he enlisted as a private. He was promoted rapidly and at the time of the East St. Louis strike was 1st Lieutenant of Company A. He was elected Captain of the company September 27th, 1887, serving as such during the campaign of the Spring Valley coal miners' strike. In January 1893 he was commissioned Major and in this capacity saw service in Chicago throughout the great railroad troubles. He commanded the 1st Battalion of the Sixth regiment during the Spanish American War and at present is ranking Major of the regiment.

Company I participated in a parade at Moline and Rock Island, Ill., July 4th, 1892.

Both Companies, I and E. attended the Dedication Ceremonies of the buildings of the World's Columbian Exposition, at Chicago, Oct 21st, 1892, and took part in the Military parade on that day. Troops from all over the State were present, and the parade was a brilliant one in every respect. The Sixth regiment was quartered in the Electrical Building on the Exposition grounds. The rations issued were furnished by contract and were not fit to eat. Nearly all of the boys preferred to purchase their own meals rather than be compelled to eat the food given them. The main floor of the building in which they were quartered was set with long rows of tables. Thousands of loaves of bread and hundreds of pounds of meat and coffee were brought in. A large force of men and women were at work all one day making sandwiches and preparing to feed the thousands, who were expected the following day. It became necessary to post a guard around the tables, as the sandwiches and doughnuts were stolen by hundreds. The boys who were standing guard had little opportunity to get out

to secure food and soon became quite hungry. The girls behind the tables took pity on them and when the superintendent was not looking, would pass the eager soldiers a cup of coffee or a sandwich. This was soon discovered and we saw an express wagon driven in containing a load of white muslin. In a few moments a corps of workmen appeared and they quickly stretched the cloth around the tables apparently cutting off all means of communication between the fair waiters and the guards. But they were not to be so easily beaten. The soldiers were standing guard with fixed bayonets and they would run the muzzle of the rifle over the top of the cloth barrier, allow it to remain a moment during which time it would suddenly become quite weighty with a queer jerking motion, like the pulling of a five pound catfish on the end of a line. The soldier upon returning the rifle to his side of the curtain would find on the bayonet a couple of nice doughnuts, a large fresh sandwich and a tin cup, nearly full, of steaming coffee. To prevent the cup from slipping off, it was necessary to put another sandwich on the outer side of it. This combination made an excellent meal and if more was wanted, the trick was repeated as the girls could not see the boys and consequently did not know whether they were feeding the whole of the Illinois National Guard, or that one soldier was getting it all, and in all probability did not care.

#### AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The year following, 1893, four regiments of Infantry, including the Sixth, one Battery and one Troop of Cavalry were ordered to report and encamp at 75th Street near Windsor Station, Chicago, on the morning of Au-

gust 23rd. fully armed, and equipped with blankets and overcoats. The next day, August 24th had been selected as "Illinois Day" at the Columbian Exposition and the Illinois National Guard invited to parade and participate in the exercises at the Illinois State Building on that day. They remained there four days. The officers and men were allowed two days pay for this tour of duty together with transportation and subsistence. This gave a large number of the troops an opportunity to visit the Exposition grounds at little expense to themselves who otherwise may have been unable to have done so and the two days pay allowance was considered very liberal.

The troops from the neighboring towns were invited to attend a celebration at Sterling on July 4th, 1894. Several of the companies accepted and were present. The military parade was among the main attractions of the day and added materially to the general success of the affair.

On July 6th, 1894, Companies I and E were ordered for duty in Chicago with their regiment. This was at the time of the difficulties arising from the great railroad strike. With little preparation they boarded a special train at six o'clock that evening, less than four hours after the call, and were at the seat of war shortly after nine o'clock at night. For twenty days and nights they were on almost constant duty, the nature of which was extremely unpleasant. They were confronting men who were as fully determined as themselves, but luckily the campaign drew to a close without any serious conflict between the strikers and the soldiers. Had there been, the result would have been disastrous to both. The soldiers fully realized the situation and did nothing



Photo of Co. E taken at Chicago during the railroad strike, 1894.





to aggravate the rioters to commit any rash acts. With right and justice on their side the Guardsmen at all times felt equal to the situation and did their duty fearlessly. This duty consisted in guarding railroad property and protecting moving trains. They were at all times prepared for a sudden call to arms, sleeping with their rifles by their side and fully clothed in readiness to fall in at a moments notice. The promptness in mobilizing shown at the time of the exploding of an Artillery caisson on 40th street and Grand Boulevard on July 16th serves as a fair illustration of the capabilities of the men in an emergency. They were lying about camp, dreamily thinking of home when suddenly the sound of a fearful explosion was heard not far distant. Their first thought was of the deadly bombs which the strikers were supposed to have been preparing for them. With the thunder of the explosion still ringing in their ears came the clear shrill notes of the bugle call sounding "assembly." A scramble for quarters followed and in less than five minutes after hearing the first sound of alarm the available troops in camp were marching in quick time to the scene of disaster, momentarily expecting to face a horde of half crazed men who, once started would stop at nothing. Instead, the mangled forms of a dozen or more unfortunate soldiers met their gaze, and the cause of the trouble was quite evident. Major Anthony was the first surgeon to appear and he immediately turned his attention to the poor fellows who were wounded, extracting some eight or ten bullets in a few moments. Four men were killed outright, literally torn in pieces. Twelve men and two women were more or less seriously injured and the remains of nine horses were scattered about. After a short tour of guard duty

in the neighborhood of the accident the men returned to camp. With the evidence of returning peace, the men became restless and anxious to return to their homes, and on July 26th they boarded a homeward bound train arriving at four o'clock in the afternoon.

A soldier camp, even in the heart of a great city like Chicago means many discomforts and not a few privations, and the effects of this three weeks service had worked a wonderful change in the appearance of the men. Besides, they were badly sunburned and contrasted strangely with the natty boys who had taken such a hurried departure a few weeks previous. They were met at the depot by a dense crowd of cheering citizens and escorted to their armories. The command "break ranks" was received with a cheer from the soldier boys. The uniforms were soon discarded and they were again citizens.

The officers of the two companies during the service were: Captain, Wm. F. Colebaugh; 1st Lieut., H. T. Guffin, and 2nd Lieut., Ed. C. Lawton, of I. Captain, Wm. F. Lawrie; 1st Lieut., Walter N. Haskell, and 2nd Lieut., G. B. Dillon of E.

The evening following their home coming, both companies were banqueted by the citizens of their individual towns. This was the most serious riot that the State troops had ever been called upon to assist in suppressing and was the second experience of actual soldier life in the history of Company I, as it was the first for Company E. Referring to the reference marks at the head of the complete roster of the companies, a \* denotes the names of those who saw service in Chicago, while the † which also appears on the roster of Company I designates the men who were present at the East St.

Louis campaign in 1886, as accurately as it is possible to determine at this late date.

The entire National Guard of the State was mobilized at Chicago on July 22nd, 1897, to parade and participate in the ceremonies connected with the unveiling of General Logan's monument. Companies I and E were present, boarding an early morning train and arriving in Chicago barely in time to take their position in line. The line of march extended for miles and at the close they were immediately hurried to the railway station to embark for the return home, where they arrived about nine o'clock in the evening.

On September 30th the same year, Captain Colebaugh commanding Company I received the following telegram.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., SEPTEMBER 30TH; 1897.

CAPTAIN COLEBAUGH, CO. I, 6TH INFANTRY,

MORRISON ILL.

Report with company on nine o'clock train, to General Reece at Fulton, armed and equipped with ball cartridge.

Signed, JOHN R. TANNER.

Shortly after the receipt of the above order and just as the train was pulling into the station, Captain Colebaugh received a second telegram instructing him not to embark for Fulton until further orders, but to hold his company in readiness to leave at a moment's notice. The men remained in the armory all that night expecting to be ordered out again, but were not and they returned to their homes in the early morning. The disturbance at Fulton was caused by the friction arising from the removal to Rock Island, Ill., of the head offices of the Modern Woodmen of America, but peace and quiet were restored without the aid of the State troops. Com-

pany G of Dixon received the same order which Captain Colebaugh had acted upon in ordering his men to assemble for riot duty. The Dixon boys were on board the train which was to carry Company I to the scene and were the only troops present at the riot.



COL. WALTER FIELDHOUSE,  
Aide de Camp.



## CHAPTER VI.

## ROSTER OF THE COMPANIES.

The following pages contain a separate roster of each company from date of organization to April 30th, 1901. The roster of commissioned officers of the individual companies precedes that of the enlisted men. Upon the receipt of a commission by an enlisted man his record is carried to and completed in the roster of commissioned officers unless he again enters the service as a private, which seldom occurs.

The roster of Company I contains the names of four hundred and five men who have at one time or another been in the State service with this company. Of this number two hundred and ninety seven appear on the company descriptive book. The remaining one hundred and eight, including the charter members, were secured by a long and careful search through hundreds of old letters, General and Special Orders and muster rolls.

In defence of the commanding officers of the company during the first six or eight years of its existence, it is only just to state that their records consisted solely of the files of correspondence, orders and the retained copies of enlistment papers. The company descriptive book was at that time unknown, yet the records obtained after careful re-arrangement follow upon each other so closely as to make it quite possible to secure the name of every man who has been a member of the com-



pany in the past twenty-three years.

Again the good fortune of Company E is apparent and barring the natural inclination to make errors, which seems to be the lot of all mankind, the register of this company is complete. It shows an enrollment of three hundred and eleven names of men who have taken the oath required by the State when entering the service of the Illinois National Guard. The failure in many instances in the record of both companies to show the date of discharge of an enlisted man, may be attributed to the fact that when a Guardsman, whose term of service has expired contemplates an immediate re-enlistment, it is considered unnecessary to issue a discharge.

In the roster of enlisted men, the column headed "remarks" includes the different rank attained by each man, but does not indicate the date of appointment. It also covers the losses in the ranks either by promotion, transfer, discharge or death. Where the date simply appears, it is understood to indicate a discharge was given on that date.

## ROSTER OF COMPANY I.

A † indicates service at East St. Louis, a \* at Chicago.

### COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

#### CAPTAINS.

NAME.	DATE OF COMMISSION.	DATE OF PROMOTION.
		RESIGNATION OR DISCHARGE.
George H. Fay,	Sept. 11, 1878.	Resigned Feb. 24, 1882.
Frank Clendenin,	Aug. 1, 1882.	Commissioned Colonel and Aid de camp on the Gov- ernor's staff, Sept. 5, 1882.
Cornelius Quackenbush,	Nov. 2, 1882.	Resigned Apr. 7, 1884.

N. James Cole,	June 27, 1884.	Resigned Meh. 16, 1885.
William F. Colebaugh,	Apr. 8, 1885.	Resigned Apr. 1, 1886.
† Henry H. Griffiths,	Apr. 28, 1886.	Resigned Apr. 21, 1888.
William F. Colebaugh,	May 21, 1888.	Commission expired May 21, 1891.
Milford Johnson,	May 28, 1891.	Resigned Apr. 27, 1892.
Merritt Stowe,	June 2, 1892.	Resigned Oct. 4, 1892.
* William F. Colebaugh,	Oct. 19, 1892,	Commission expired Oct. 19, 1895.
Harry T. Guffin,	May 30, 1895.	Resigned June —, 1896.
William F. Colebaugh,	July 9, 1896.	Commission expired July 9, 1899.
Harvey S. Green,	July 14, 1899.	

## 1ST. LIEUTENANTS.

Cornelius Quackenbush,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Commission expired Sept. 11, 1881.
Z. T. Anderson,	No record,	Resigned April 22, 1882.
Frank Clendenin,	June 8, 1882,	Commissioned Captain Aug 1, 1882.
Curtis Johnson,	Aug. 1, 1882,	Resigned Oct. 15th 1882.
N. James Cole,	Nov. 3, 1882,	Commissioned Capt. June 27, 1884.
William F. Colebaugh,	June 27, 1884,	Commissioned Capt. April 8, 1885.
Henry Griffiths,	Apr. 8, 1885,	Commissioned Capt. April 28, 1886.
† T. S. Beach,	Apr. 28, 1886,	Resigned Jan. 15, 1887.
Wm. S. Brearton,	May 16, 1887,	Commission expired May 16, 1890.
Harry T. Guffin,	May 23, 1890,	Resigned June 19, 1891.
Merritt Stowe,	July 3, 1891,	Commissioned Capt. June 2, 1892.
S. Wellington Baker,	June 2, 1892,	Resigned June 7, 1893.
* Harry T. Guffin,	July 24, 1893,	Commissioned Capt. May 30, 1895.
Edward C. Lawton,	May 30, 1895,	Commission expired May 30, 1898.
Harry A. Weaver,	March 9, 1899.	

## 2ND. LIEUTENANTS.

John Grierson,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Resigned June 5, 1879.
Edward A. Worrell,	July 16, 1879,	Resigned Sept. 6, 1880.
Edward P. Stokes	Sept. 2, 1880,	Resigned March 25, 1882.
Curtis Johnson,	June 8, 1882,	Commissioned 1st. Lieut. Aug. 1, 1882.

Wm. S. Brearton,	Aug. 1, 1882,	Resigned March — 1883.
Charles F. Montague,	July 28, 1883,	Resigned May 27, 1884.
Erastus B. Humphrey	June 27, 1884.	Resigned Apr. 1, 1886.
†John M. Colebaugh	Apr. 28, 1886,	Commission expired Apr. 28, 1889.
Harry T. Guffin	May 13, 1889,	Commissioned 1st. Lieut. May 23, 1890.
S. Wellington Baker,	May 23, 1890,	Resigned July 28, 1891.
A. Rollin Baird,	Aug. 8, 1891,	Resigned Apr. 10, 1893.
Harry T. Guffin,	May 8, 1893,	Commissioned 1st. Lieut. July 24, 1893.
George H. Kentfield,	July 24, 1893,	Resigned March 20, 1894.
*Edward C. Lawton,	Apr. 2, 1894,	Commissioned 1st. Lieut. May 30, 1895.
Walter H. Clark,	May 30, 1895,	Resigned June — 1896.
Charles Puddifoot,	July 9, 1896,	Resigned June 17, 1897.
Ernest J. Weaver,	June 29, 1897,	Resigned May 14, 1898.
Jacob L. Rockey,	March 9, 1899.	

## ENLISTED MEN.

NAME	DATE OF ENLISTMENT	REMARKS
Anderson, Z. T.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sergeant. Commissioned 1st. Lieut. No date.
Atwater, Benjamin J.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Feb. 24, 1880. Corporal.
Alexander, Thornton	Dec. 10, 1878,	Feb. 24, 1880. Sergeant.
Austin, Will G.	June 19, 1882,	June 6, 1883.
Austin, A. E.	June 20, 1882,	
†Anderson, H. F.	Apr. 12, 1883,	July 9, 1887. Corporal, Sergeant.
Allen, William	Apr. 25, 1889,	July 29, 1890.
Adams, Henry W.	May 30, 1895,	Aug. 28, 1899.
Anderson, Nils	Apr. 9, 1896,	May 28, 1898.
Aldrich, Albert	Aug. 9, 1897	Aug. 28, 1899.
Adams, Ray	May 18, 1899.	
Annan, George	Aug. 31, 1899.	
Annan, Frank W.	May 1, 1900.	
Annan, Floyd J.	Mch. 7, 1901.	
Buckley, George	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sept. 7, 1880. Sergeant.
Bogart, Cornelius	Sept. 11, 1878,	Dec. 15, 1882.
Buttery, Arthur C.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Nov. 6, 1883. Corporal, Sergeant.
Bray, Dennis	Sept. 11, 1878,	Feb. 24, 1880.
Bartholomew, Geo. L.	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 5, 1883. Corporal.

†Bowdish, Daniel G.	Sept. 11, 1878,	May 24, 1883.
“ “ “	May 8, 1884,	July 7, 1886.
Bowdish, William B.	Mch. 22, 1879,	May 22, 1884.
Brandt, John N.	Aug. 15, 1879,	Sept. 1, 1884.
Burns, Howard	Aug. 26, 1879,	Oct. 17, 1883. Corporal, Sergeant.
Buell, George A.	July 12, 1880,	July 10, 1885. Corporal, Sergeant.
Burke, Michael	Aug. 30, 1880,	Feb. 27, 1883.
Brearton, Wm. S.	June 8, 1882,	Commissioned 2nd. Lieut. Aug. 1, 1882. Appointed Regimental Commissary Sergeant July 21, 1886. Commissioned 1st. Lieut. May 16, 1887.
“ “ “	June 4, 1886,	
Berry, Daniel S.	June 8, 1882,	May 24, 1883.
Ball, William A.	June 23, 1882,	Oct. 17, 1883.
Bartlett, C. C.	June 26, 1882,	Nov. 25, 1885. Musician.
Beach, T. S.	Nov. 30, 1882,	Corporal, Sergeant. Commissioned 1st. Lieut. Apr. 28, 1886.
Borland, James A.	Mch. 8, 1883,	Oct. 6, 1884.
Bartlett, C. N.	May 31, 1883,	May 15, 1885. Corporal,
†Bartlett, O. J.	Feb. 28, 1884,	July 2, 1886. Corporal, Sergeant.
Brett, George	June 28, 1884,	Oct. 6, 1884.
†Baker, S. Wellington,	Apr. 22, 1885,	Apr. 30, 1890.
“ “ “		Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.
“ “ “	May 15, 1890,	Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant May 23, 1890.
“ “ “	Feb. 4, 1892,	Commissioned 1st Lieutenant June 2, 1892.
†Boze, William S.,	Feb. 10, 1886,	May 16, 1887. Corporal.
Burke, Charles E.,	June 4, 1886,	Nov. 13, 1888.
Brown, Charles C.,	July 15, 1886,	Nov. 13, 1888.
“ “ “	July 11, 1895,	Mch. 28, 1898.
Bent, Paul A ,	May 24, 1888,	May 24, 1891.
“ “ “	Oct. 17, 1892,	Aug. 4, 1893, Corporal, Sergeant.
Baird, A. Rollin,	May 31, 1888,	June 1, 1891. Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.
“ “ “	June 4, 1891,	Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant August 8, 1891.
Boyle, Edward P.,	Aug. 2, 1888,	July 29, 1890.

Boyer, E. C.,	Feb. 9, 1889,	May 27, 1892.
*Burritt, Walter E.,	Jan. 13, 1890,	Jan. 26, 1893.
“ “ “	Jan. 29, 1893,	Corporal, Sergeant.
“ “ “	Jan. 28, 1894,	Appointed Q. M. Sergeant
“ “ “	Jan. 25, 1895,	1st Battalion Aug. 14,
“ “ “	May 6, 1896,	1892. Re-appointed July
“ “ “	July 19, 1899,	29, 1899. Appointed Reg-
		imental Commissary Ser-
		geant July 23, 1900.
Borgman, Harry,	June 19, 1890,	June 26, 1893.
Bly, Timothy,	July 31, 1890,	August 4, 1893.
“ “	July 20, 1897,	Aug. 28, 1899.
Bunzey, Rufus S.	Aug. 7, 1890,	Feb. 20, 1893.
“ “ “	Aug. 31, 1899,	
“ “ “	Aug. 31, 1900,	
Bunzey, Fred A.,	June 4, 1891,	May 20, 1893.
*Bent, Fred D.,	July 21, 1892,	
“ “ “	July 25, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896
Boyd, Herbert N.,	July 21, 1892,	Sept. 17, 1894.
*Baird, Joseph S.,	July 21, 1892,	July 16, 1896. Musician.
*Bailey, Thomas,	July 30, 1892,	July 16, 1896.
Bush, Ira E.,	Oct. 7, 1892,	May 18, 1894. Corporal.
Bailey, John A.,	May 4, 1893,	July 30, 1896.
“ “ “	July 21, 1896,	Aug. 12, 1897.
“ “ “	Aug. 12, 1897,	Jan. 11, 1898.
*Bent, John E.	Apr. 28, 1894,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Bromson, Charles D.,	May 23, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Berry, Charles,	Apr. 12, 1896,	Corporal.
“ “	June 12, 1899,	Feb. 26, 1900.
Berry, Harrison, T.,	Jan. 15, 1897,	Corporal.
Bailey, Wilbur E.,	July 6, 1897,	Sept. 3, 1899.
Boyd, William J.,	July 6, 1897,	Sept. 3, 1899.
Bailey, Cager B.,	July 8, 1897,	Sept. 3, 1899.
Boyer, William C.,	Mch. 31, 1898,	Aug. 24, 1899.
Baird, John W.,	Apr. 7, 1898	Apr. 16, 1901.
Besse, Karl,	May 18, 1899,	
Bent, Harry A.,	May 18, 1899,	Feb. 26, 1900.
“ “	Jan. 17, 1901,	Corporal.
Brearton, Fred W.,	May 18, 1899,	Corporal.
Booth, Clarence A.,	May 31, 1900,	
Boyd, Paul F.,	Feb. 5, 1900,	Corporal. Appointed Hos-
		pital Steward July 21,
		1900.
Burch, William H.,	Apr. 12, 1900,	Corporal.

## ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARDS.

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Beckwith, E. Q.,	July 20, 1900,	
Brearton, James M.,	Feb. 21, 1900,	Musician.
Bailey, Jesse,	Mch. 28, 1901,	
Bowen, Floyd J.,	Apr. 25, 1901,	
Breiter, Arthur C.,	Apr. 30, 1901,	
Casey, William,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sept. 11, 1883.
Clark, Clarence G.,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sept. 7, 1880. Corporal.
Cole, N. James,	May 10, 1879,	Sergeant. Commissioned 1st Lieutenant Nov. 3, 1882.
Colebaugh, William F.,	Feb. 22, 1881,	Corporal, Sergeant. 1st Sergeant. Commission- ed 1st Lieutenant Jan. 27, 1884.
Clendenin, Frank,	Aug. 1, 1882.	Commissioned 1st Lieut. this date.
Colebaugh, John M.,	Aug. 10, 1882,	Sergeant. Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant Apr. 28, 1886.
" " "	Jan. 9, 1890,	June 29, 1891.
" " "	Aug. 21, 1893,	Sept. 13, 1894.
†Collins, D. J.,	Jan. 11, 1883,	Jan. 11, 1888. Sergeant.
†Cummings, Levi,	Mch. 25, 1885,	July 7, 1886.
Clark, George H.,	June 4, 1886,	Nov. 13, 1888.
Canfield, Ora,	June 16 1886,	May 9, 1887.
Collins, James,	June 21, 1888,	June 29, 1891. Corporal.
" "	June 25, 1891,	May 14, 1894. Sergeant.
*Clark, Walter H.,	May 15, 1890,	May 17, 1893.
" " "	Sept. 27, 1894,	Jan. 16, 1896.
" " "	Aug. 13, 1896,	Aug. 28, 1899. Corporal.
Colebaugh, James,	July 31, 1890,	June 29, 1891.
*Crouch, David E.,	Feb. 25, 1892,	May 11, 1895. Corporal.
" "	May 16, 1895	Sergeant
" "	Aug. 13, 1896,	Sept. 13, 1899. 1st Ser- geant.
Craft, Frank,	May 12, 1892.	Dec. 8, 1892.
Clark, Walter E.,	June 9, 1892,	Corporal Sergeant. Com- missioned 2nd Lieut., May 30, 1895.
*Curtis, Edmund L.,	Oct. 17, 1892,	Jan. 16, 1896.
" " "	Jan. 9, 1896,	Corporal.
" " "	May 13, 1897,	Sergeant.
" " "	May 13, 1900.	
Cronon, Arthur,	Apr. 12, 1896,	May 28, 1898.
Colebaugh, Ora,	Apr. 16, 1896,	August 29, 1899. Musician.



Colehour, George,	Aug. 9, 1897,	Aug. 28, 1899.	
Carter, Frank,	May 18, 1839,	January 15, 1901.	
Cargy, Olin,	May 18, 1899,		
Childs, Clarence C.,	May 18, 1899,		
Clifford, Benjamin F.	May 7, 1900,	Jan. 15, 1901.	Corporal.
Childs, W. L.,	Dec. 29, 1900.		
Dean, James,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Dec. 15, 1882.	
†Dean, J. H.,	Aug. 7, 1882,	Aug. 7, 1887.	
†Dodd, George H.,	Jan. 12, 1886.	July 7, 1886.	
Davis, James W.,	July 15, 1886,	July 15, 1889.	Sergeant.
Deetz, S. L.,	Mch., 7, 1889,	July 29, 1890.	
Daniels, Orville,	June 19, 1890,	Dec. 26, 1892.	
*Deyo, Robert J.,	May 26, 1892,	May 26, 1895.	
“ “ “	July 25, 1895,	August 8, 1896	Corporal.
Davis, Robert E.	May 17, 1897	Musician.	
“ “ “	May 17, 1900,		
Davis, Frank,	Aug. 9, 1897,	Feb. 26, 1900.	
Drennen, M. L.,	Apr. 6, 1899		
Dodd, Frank,	May 18, 1899,	Jan. 15, 1901.	
Davis, Floyd N.,	June 8, 1899,	Feb. 26, 1900.	
“ “	Jan. 28, 1901,		
Davis, Walter B.,	Sept. 14, 1899,		
Derby, Harry H.,	May 17, 1900.		
Drury, Walter C.,	July 20, 1900,		
Donichy, James, G. B.,	April 30, 1901,		
Emery, Williard,	June 23, 1882,	Died December 15, '82.	
Eaton, Ernest M.,	July 28, 1883,	April 17, 1884.	
Ely, Spencer,	June 4, 1886,	Apr. 16, 1887.	
*Ewing, Arthur M.,	Jan. 19, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896.	
Everhart, George,	May 6, 1897,	Sergeant,	
“ “	May 7, 1900,		
Ege, Sylvester A.,	Aug. 31, 1899,		
Fay, George H.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Commissioned Captain this date.	
Fox, Frank M ,	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879.	
Freezer, A. W. Herd,	Apr. 23, 1879,	Aug. 17, 1881.	
Fellows, Edward S.,	May 10, 1879,	Nov. 18, 1881.	
France, P. M.,	Oct. 12, 1884,	Nov. 23, 1885.	
Farwell, Fred,	Apr. 29, 1885,	Nov. 23, 1885.	
Fox, Eugene A.,	June 16, 1887,	June 16, 1890.	Corporal,
		Sergeant.	
Fox, Adolphus H.,	July 28, 1887,	July 29, 1890.	
Ferguson, F. A.,	Mch. 7, 1889,	July 23, 1890.	



*Fellows, Emerson M.,	July 27, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896.
" " "	Aug. 10, 1897,	
" " "	July 24, 1899,	Corporal.
" " "	July 25, 1900,	
Frye, Jacob B.,	July 11, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Fisher, Harry J.,	Mch. 12, 1898,	
Freek, George W.,	July 20, 1899,	April 19, 1901.
Fitzgerald, Charles,	Feb. 5, 1900,	
Fenton, William J.,	July 4, 1900,	
Freek, Charles,	July 20, 1900,	Apr. 19, 1901.
Grierson, John,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant this date.
Gilroy, Edward A.,	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879.
Garrison, LeRoy C.,	Nov. 18, 1878,	
Griffiths, William B.,	Aug. 16, 1879,	Dec. 15, 1882.
Gray, William H.,	Feb. 22, 1883,	June 19, 1884.
*Goff, F. M.,	Feb. 22, 1883,	Corporal.
Griffiths, Henry H.,	May 8, 1883,	Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant. Commissioned 1st Lieut. May 8, 1885.
Green, Lester W.	July 18, 1883,	June 19, 1884.
*Gray, John	July 29, 1885,	Oct. 30, 1888. Corporal.
Guffin, Frank H.	June 4, 1886,	June 4, 1889. Corporal. Sergeant.
Guffin, Harry T.	June 4, 1886,	Corporal, Sergeant. Commissioned 2nd. Lieut. May 13, 1889. Commissioned 1st. Lieut. July 24, 1893.
" " "	May 8, 1893,	
Green, Harvey S.	June 4, 1886,	Corporal, Sergeant.
" " "	May 24, 1888,	May 16, 1887.
" " "	July 14, 1899,	July 29, 1890. Commissioned Capt. this date.
Gynn, William W.	June 16, 1892,	Dec 26, 1892.
Gregory, Benjamin F.	Jan. 26, 1893,	Aug. 10 1895.
Geiger, George H.	Mch. 12, 1898,	Jan. 15, 1901.
Green, John	May 18, 1899,	
Gorzuy, John	April 25, 1901,	
Gorzny, Joe	April 30, 1901.	
*Hencler, Augustus	Sept. 11, 1878,	Nov. 6, 1883.
" "	June 12, 1884.	
Hendricks, Jesse Y.	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879.
Hanna, Robert H.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Dec. 15, 1882.
Haskin, Ezra C.	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879.

Humphrey, E. B.	Sept. 11, 1878	Sergeant
“ “ “	Oct. 10, 1883,	Sept. 11, 1883. Commissioned 2nd. Lieut. June 27, 1884.
Hill, A. D.	Oct. 18, 1878,	June 3, 1880. Sergeant Color Sergeant.
Hughes, William J.	Nov. 13, 1878	Sept. 7, 1880.
Hawes, Charles T.	May 10, 1879,	Nov. 18, 1881.
†Holt, George W,	Aug. 7, 1879,	Sept. 1, 1884.
“ “ “	Sept. 10, 1884,	Nov. 13, 1888.
Hannan, Thomas B.	Oct. 4, 1879,	Feb. 27, 1883.
Hurd, James M.	Sept. 4, 1880,	April 17, 1884.
Hurd, Lewis M.	Feb. 1, 1881,	Aug. 17, 1884.
Hayes, John F.	June 14, 1882,	Feb. 27, 1887.
Hollinshead, R. P.	June 20, 1882.	
Humphrey, William	June 24, 1882,	June 19, 1884.
Hindes, Horace F.	Aug. 1, 1882,	
“ “ “	Nov. 14, 1889,	July 28, 1890.
†Harris, E. L.	Feb. 8, 1883,	Feb. 8, 1888. Corporal, Ser- geant.
Harris, Fred L.	Mch. 29, 1883,	July 18, 1885. Corporal.
Hoffman, George D.	Aug. 8, 1883,	Oct. 6, 1884.
†Hurless, C. N.	May 3, 1883,	May 3, 1888. Corporal, Ser- geant.
Humphrey, Albert	Aug. 28, 1883,	Nov. 23, 1885.
“ “ “	June 2, 1892,	June 2, 1895.
“ “ “	June 6, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
†Holt, E. E.	Jan. 21, 1885,	Oct. 27, 1888.
“ “ “	May 15, 1890,	June 1, 1891. Corporal, Ser- geant.
Heath, Walter,	June 2, 1886,	June 10, 1889. Musician
Harrison, George F.	June 4, 1886,	Nov. 21, 1887.
Holt, Frank F.	July 14, 1887,	July 16, 1890.
Hines, John F.	Mch. 8, 1888,	July 29, 1890.
Hobert, William	April 4, 1889,	July 29, 1890.
“ “ “	May 28, 1891	July 28, 1892.
Hoover, Fred	May 2, 1889,	August 1, 1891.
“ “ “	June 1, 1893,	June 27, 1894.
High, Christopher	Sept. 23, 1890,	Died Nov. 2, 1890.
*Hullett, Ralph W.	Feb. 25, 1892,	May 11, 1895. Corporal.
Hughes, Herbert G.	May 5, 1892,	Died July 31, 1892.
Heath, Willis F.	Aug. 30, 1892,	Jan. 16, 1896.
*Humphrey, Byron P.	July 27, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896.
*Humphrey, Ralph D.	July 5, 1894,	July 10, 1897.
“ “ “ “	July 10, 1897,	Died in Utuado, Porto Rico, Oct. 30, 1898.

Hagen, August,	May 19, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1895.
Hagen, William L.,	May 23, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Heiss, George,	May 23, 1895,	Aug. 28, 1898.
Harrison, Otto,	May 20, 1896,	Aug. 28, 1899.
Hunt, George,	May 6, 1897,	Corporal.
" "	May 31, 1900,	
Howe, Martin O.,	May 6, 1897,	Feb. 23, 1900.
Hyatt, Charles E.,	Apr. 7, 1898,	Feb. 26, 1900.
Howe, Abner R.,	Apr. 14, 1898,	Apr. 13, 1901.
Hawes, George B.,	June 14, 1899.	
High, Aaron,	May 3, 1900.	
Hirleman, Samuel B.,	Apr. 25, 1901.	
Hirleman, Wilber, E.,	Apr. 30, 1901.	
Johnson, Frank V.,	Sept. 11, 1878,	June 8, 1880. Corporal.
Johnson, John J.,	Sept. 11, 1878.	
Johnson, Curtis,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sergeant, 1st Sergeant. Commissioned 2nd Lieut. June 8, 1882.
Jaeger, Frederick W.,	Oct. 14, 1878,	Nov. 18, 1881.
†Johnson, Milford,	Dec. 28, 1882,	June 21, 1888, Corporal.
" "	Feb. 7, 1889,	Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.
" "	Oct. 19, 1892,	Commissioned Captain Apr. 27, 1892.
†Jordan, G. W.,	Jan. 24, 1883,	July 2, 1886. Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.
Johnson, Fred O.,	May 6, 1897,	Corporal.
" " "	May 31, 1900,	
Judd, Frank,	July 1, 1897,	Sept. 3, 1899.
Jackson, Ralph D.,	Apr. 7, 1898,	Feb. 26, 1900
Johnson, Ray B.,	Apr. 12, 1900,	Jan. 15, 1901.
Johnson, Bert,	Jan. 11, 1901,	
Kinney, James,	Sept. 11, 1878.	July 10, 1879.
Kier, Albert,	June 26, 1884,	Nov. 23, 1885.
Kenyan, E. R.,	July 17, 1884,	Nov. 25, 1885.
Kentfield, George H.,	Feb. 3, 1887,	Appointed Regimental Commissary Sergeant July 23, 1887. Commis- sioned 2nd Lieutenant July 24, 1893.
Kool, Adolph,	May 31, 1888,	May 31, 1891.
" "	June 1, 1893,	July 27, 1894.
Kidd, William A.,	July 6, 1893,	August 16, 1895.
Kaler, Orville,	May 20, 1896,	Corporal, Sergeant.

Kayler, Orville	June 1, 1899,	
" "	June 1, 1900,	
Kellett, Charles T.,	May 18, 1899,	Jan. 15, 1901.
Kennedy, Vern V.,	May 1, 1900,	
Kaler, Ralph D.,	Feb. 14, 1901.	
Levett, Henry,	Sept. 11, 1878,	Corporal.
Lane, W. L.,	June 5, 1882,	July 5, 1883.
Lovell, Ellsworth,	Aug. 3, 1882,	June 6, 1883.
†Larish, J. W.,	July 18, 1883,	July 7, 1886. Corporal.
Leber, William H.,	April 24, 1884,	Dec. 3, 1884.
Lengle, Albert,	May 30, 1884,	Oct. 6, 1884.
Lauphere, Jay C.,	July 17, 1884,	Dec. 3, 1884.
I ang, Paul,	June 2, 1886,	July 9, 1887.
Langdon, Porter B.,	Feb. 7, 1888,	May 23, 1892.
*Leigh, George E.	June 5, 1890,	June 6, 1893. Musician.
" "	June 15, 1893,	Sept. 3, 1894. Corporal.
*Lane, H. B.,	June 13, 1890,	June 20, 1893.
" " "	Aug. 17, 1893,	Sept. 13, 1894.
Lawton, Edward C.	July 31, 1890,	Aug. 4, 1893.
" " "	Aug. 10 1893,	Corporal, Sergeant. Com-
		missioned 2nd. Lieut.
		Apr. 2, 1894.
Lyon, Harley B.	July 9, 1891,	Aug. 4, 1893.
*Lawton, Willie B.	July 27, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896.
" " "	June 10, 1897,	Sept. 3, 1890.
*Lane, Joseph S.	July 5, 1894,	Aug. 8, 1896.
" " "	June 13, 1899,	June 12, 1900.
Lewis, Arthur L.	July 28, 1899,	Jan. 15, 1900.
Lane, Mat B.	July 18, 1900,	Apr. 19, 1901.
Lamson, Claude H.	May 1, 1900.	
Lewis, Walter P.	April 25, 1901,	
Mattern, Albert A.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Feb. 24, 1880. Sergeant.
Martin, Peter	Sept. 11 1878,	Nov. 3, 1879. Corporal.
Morse, Milton	Sept. 11, 1878,	Nov. 3, 1879. Corporal.
Monck, Solomon F.	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879.
Marshall, Charles H.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sept. 7, 1880.
†Montague, Charles F.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Corporal, Sergeant.
" "	Apr. 7, 1886,	May 26, 1883. Commis-
		sioned 2nd. Lieut.
		July 28, 1883.
*Morse, William	Oct. 5, 1878,	Apr. 15, 1883.
" "	Nov. 8, 1883,	Jan. 4, 1889.
" "	May 23, 1890.	June 6, 1893

*Morse, William	June 27, 1873.	
" "	June 28, 1894.	
" "	July 11, 1895.	
" "	Aug. 31, 1896.	
" "	Aug. 31, 1899.	
" "	Aug. 31, 1900.	Detailed to Hospital Corps.
Murphey, Julius M.	Feb. 5, 1879.	
Moulton, Lewis B.	Mch. 9, 1880.	Feb. 27, 1883.
Moulton, William H.	Mch. 9, 1880.	Nov. 23, 1885.
Myers, Charles	June 8, 1882.	Oct. 6, 1884.
Murphey, J. H.	June 8, 1882.	June 19, 1884. Corporal.
Melville, J. H.	June 28, 1882.	Apr. 17, 1884.
†McGilvary, William	Dec. 28, 1882.	Dec. 28, 1887. Corporal.
Maxwell, Douglas L.	April 12, 1883.	Oct. 6, 1884.
Martin, J. H.	May 30, 1885.	July 7, 1886.
" " "	July 28, 1892.	August 4, 1893.
†Mericle, Frank E.	June 17, 1885.	July 16, 1890.
" " "	July 17, 1896.	Aug. 12, 1897.
" " "	Aug. 13, 1897.	Jan. 11, 1898. Corporal.
McMullin, Frank E.	June 4, 1886.	July 1, 1887.
Marshall, Myron	July 2, 1886.	Oct. 12, 1887.
Majors, Clarence E.	May 24, 1888.	May 24, 1891.
" " "	May 28, 1891.	Feb. 9, 1893. Corporal, Sergeant.
Moulton, Frank	May 2, 1889.	May 23, 1892.
McKee, Charles F.	May 23, 1889.	May 26, 1892.
" " "	May 26, 1892.	June 6, 1893. Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.
*Mathews, Andrew F.	May 5, 1892.	May 11, 1895.
" " "	June 13, 1895.	
" " "	June 10, 1897.	
" " "	June 12, 1899.	Corporal, Sergeant.
Maxfield, William H.	June 2, 1892.	Aug. 12, 1893.
*McKee, Lafayette S.	Oct. 17, 1892.	Jan. 16, 1896. Musician.
Mitchell, Orville	May 23, 1895.	Aug. 28, 1899.
Maloney, William T.	July 11, 1895.	Aug. 8, 1896.
MaGee, Charles	May 20, 1896.	Aug. 28, 1899.
Mericle, Earle S.	July 15, 1896.	Aug. 8, 1896.
Morse, Edwin W.	July 8, 1897.	Jan. 7, 1901.
Morse, Harry L.	July 15, 1897.	Jan. 5, 1901. Corporal.
MaGee, Theodore	Apr. 14, 1898.	Aug. 24, 1899.
McKenzie, Richard	May 18, 1899.	Corporal.
Miller, Frank	July 18, 1899.	

McBride, Harley A.	Aug. 31, 1899.	
Maloney, Monty F.	Feb. 5, 1900,	Apr. 19, 1901.
Mahaney, Bert	May 3, 1900,	Jan. 15, 1901.
Meyers, Frank G.	May 10, 1900.	
Mouck, Robert H.	May 7, 1900,	Apr. 20, 1901.
Morrill, O. A.	July 20, 1900.	
Meyer, Sam	Apr. 25, 1901,	
Nash, Henry G.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Nov. 3, 1879.
North, A. D.	June 4, 1886,	June 4, 1889.
" " "	June 7, 1889,	July 16, 1890.
" " "	Oct. 19, 1892,	Nov. 12, 1892. Corporal.
Naaktgeboren, Jacob	June 19, 1890,	June 20, 1893. Corporal.
Nelson, Melvin R.	May 24, 1900.	
Oberholtzer, Charley	Apr. 24, 1884,	Dec. 3, 1884.
Osborne, Andrew J.	July 12, 1897,	Sept. 3, 1899. Corporal.
Olmstead, Stuart	May 18, 1899.	
Planthaber, Charles	Sept. 11, 1878,	Nov. 3, 1879.
" "	Aug. 5, 1880,	Aug. 5, 1885.
" "	Aug. 19, 1885,	May 14, 1886. Corporal, Sergeant.
Paschal, John H.	Mch. 22, 1879,	May 24, 1883.
Phiney, Burritt E.	June 28, 1882,	Feb. 27, 1887.
Purdy, M. S.	Nov. 30, 1882,	June 19, 1884.
Petersen, Frank	June 4, 1886,	June 10, 1889. Corporal.
Puddifoot, Charles H.	June 4, 1886,	May 4, 1889. Corporal.
" " "	July 9, 1896,	Commissioned 2nd Lieut. this date.
Preston, Elliott M.	June 4, 1886,	June 4, 1889.
Peterson, Peter	May 28, 1891,	June 16, 1892.
Petersen, Albert A.	Aug. 3, 1891,	Jan. 26, 1893.
" " "	Aug. 8, 1895,	July 16, 1896.
Pinkley, Victor M.	Jan. 24, 1895,	Aug. 10, 1895.
Paschal, James O.	June 6, 1895,	May 28, 1898.
Palmer, Bert	May 13, 1897,	May 12, 1900.
Pratt, Thurston T.	July 3, 1900.	
Quackenbush, Cornelius	Sept. 11, 1878,	Commissioned 1st. Lieut. this date.
" "	Nov. 2, 1882.	Commissioned Capt this date.
Quackenbush, Geo. A.	Dec. 1, 1879,	Died Feb. 4, 1884. Sergeant.
*Quackenbush, Frank	June 11, 1891,	June 27, 1894.
" "	June 28, 1894,	Jan. 16, 1896. Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.
*Quick, William	Aug. 3, 1893,	Aug. 28, 1899.



Richtmyer, Alonzo	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sept. 7, 1880.	1st Sergeant.
Rounds, Oscar	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879.	Corporal.
Reutlinger, Wm J.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sept. 11, 1883.	
Rose, Alex E.	Aug. 26, 1879.		
Rose, John	May 26, 1886,	June 10, 1889.	
" "	June 5, 1890,	Aug. 13, 1892.	
Reecher, Lewis	May 18, 1886,	Nov. 13, 1888.	
Record, Albert R.	May 28, 1888,	July 29, 1890.	
Ryan, John E.	June 7, 1888,	June 7, 1891.	
" " "	June 25, 1891,	July 20, 1891.	Corporal, Sergeant.
*Randall, George	July 15, 1889,	July 21, 1892.	
" "	Aug. 3, 1893,	Sept. 13, 1894.	
Rockey, Harry H,	May 23, 1895.		
" " "	June 15, 1899.		
" " "	June 15, 1900,	Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.	
Rockey, Jacob L.	May 30, 1895,	Corporal, Sergeant.	
" " "	March 9, 1899,	Commissioned 2nd Lieut.	this date.
Riordon, John A.	Apr. 25, 1901.		
Story, James	Sept. 11, 1878,	Feb. 24, 1880.	
Strawn, Frank H.	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879.	
Scotchbrook, Aaron A.	Nov. 18, 1878.		
Stokes, Edward P.	May 10, 1879,	Corporal. Commissioned 2nd Lieut. Sept. 2, 1880.	
Sixx, Scott	June 4, 1879,	June 16, 1884.	Corporal, Sergeant.
Stapleton, Joseph	May 29, 1880,	Feb. 27, 1883.	
Savage, L. E.	Feb. 24, 1881,	Oct. 6, 1884.	
Shatto, James H.	June 9, 1882,	May 24, 1883.	
Stafford, D. C.	June 26, 1882,	July 15, 1886.	Musician.
Small, H. D.	Aug. 5, 1885,	May 14, 1886.	
Springer, Bert	May 26, 1886,	May 9, 1887.	
Smith, Edward A.	June 4, 1886,	May 16, 1887.	
" " "	May 24, 1888,	May 24, 1891.	Corporal, Sergeant, 1st Sergeant.
Spafford, Frank S.	June 23, 1886.		
Stowers, Frank E.	Aug. 14, 1887,	July 10, 1890.	
Spafford, J. Earle	May 24, 1888,	May 24, 1891.	Corporal.
Sears, Claude	June 7, 1888,	July 29, 1890.	
Stone, W. B.	June 7, 1889,	June 1, 1891.	
Springer, Myron	July 25, 1889,	June 16, 1892.	Corporal, Sergeant.



Stowe, Merritt	July 25, 1889,	Corporal, Sergeant. Com- missioned 1st Lieut. July 3, 1891.
" "	Oct. 17, 1892,	Aug. 4, 1893.
Steiner, N. W.	June 5, 1890,	June 6, 1893.
Seamen, John H.	May 28, 1891.	Aug. 4, 1893.
Spears, James S.	May 28, 1891,	Dec. 26, 1892.
Shears, W. F.	Feb. 25, 1892,	Aug. 4, 1893.
*Seldon, Ed.	June 16, 1892.	
" "	June 27, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Sanders, Frank F.	July 27, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896.
*Seavey, Guy A.	July 27, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896.
" " "	Aug. 13, 1896,	Mch. 28, 1898.
Sherwood, Asa K.	May 6, 1897,	May 5, 1900. Corporal.
Scanlan, Oliver	July 29, 1897,	Jan. 5, 1901.
Stanley, Neal	May 18, 1899,	Jan. 15, 1901.
Stowell, John	May 18, 1899.	
Shaffer, Charles S.	Nov. 24 1899,	Jan. 15, 1901.
Smith, Vern M.	July 28, 1899,	Jan. 15, 1901. Corporal.
Smith, Nick A.	Aug. 31, 1899,	
Seibert, John D.	Feb. 5, 1900,	
Shirk, Charles R.	May 1, 1900,	
Smaltz, Roy G.	May 1, 1900,	
Stalcup, James	May 24, 1900,	
Shaw, Harry V.	June 1, 1900,	
Snyder, William	Mch. 7, 1901,	
Stone, Erastus	Apr. 8, 1901,	
Trauger, Charles H.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Dec. 15, 1882. Musician.
Turney, Hamilton K.	Mch. 15, 1880,	Dec. 15, 1882.
†Topping, H. C.	July 17, 1884,	Oct. 12, 1887.
Taylor, William Jr.	June 28, 1888,	June 29, 1891.
" " "	July 2, 1891,	Nov. 12, 1892.
" " "	July 18, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
*Thompson, Fred A.	June 28, 1894,	Aug. 10, 1895.
Thompson, H. Clay	May 23, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Trebun, Martin F.	May 23, 1895,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Thompson, Robert C.	May 23, 1895,	Corporal.
" " "	June 3, 1897,	
" " "	July 14, 1899,	
Turner, Richard	May 18, 1899,	
Taylor, Robert W.	Aug. 10, 1899,	Corporal.
Viner, Ellis F.	June 5, 1890,	Dec. 3, 1891.

*VanDyke, Henry B.	Mch. 30, 1893,	Aug. 12, 1896.
“ “ “	Apr. 19, 1896,	Jan. 11, 1898.
“ “ “	Mch. 16, 1898,	Sept. 3, 1899.
Wilcox, George C.	Sept. 11, 1878,	July 10, 1879. Sergeant.
Wilson, William	Sept. 11, 1878,	Sept. 7, 1880. Corporal.
Worrell, Edward A.	Sept. 11, 1878,	Commissioned 2nd Lieut. July 16, 1879.
Wood, Robert	Sept. 11, 1878,	Nov. 3, 1879.
Williams, Clinton	Nov. 18, 1878,	
Winebrenner, Chas. L.	Mch. 3, 1879,	Apr. 19, 1884. Corporal. Sergeant.
Weaver, Henry B.	Oct. 4, 1879,	Dec. 1, 1884. Corporal.
Winter, Henry	June 26, 1882,	June 6, 1883.
Wheeler, Jas. A.	Aug. 7, 1882,	Dec. 3, 1884. Corporal. Sergeant.
Williams, Harvey	June 26, 1884,	Nov. 22, 1885.
Wood, Harry	June 4, 1886,	June 20, 1887.
Wood, Thomas J.	June 14, 1887,	Nov. 13, 1888.
Williams, Henry E.	May 24, 1888,	June 9, 1891.
*Wolf, Henry	July 25, 1889,	June 16, 1892.
“ “	Mch. 16, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896. Corporal.
West, J. A.	July 30, 1889,	Aug. 1, 1892. Musician.
*Whitemore, Firman	June 19, 1890,	June 20, 1893.
“ “	July 20, 1893,	Sept. 13, 1894.
“ “	Mch. 31, 1898,	Mch. 31, 1901.
Watson, Chas. E.	May 21, 1890,	Dec. 26, 1892.
Weaver, Ernest J.	June 4, 1891,	June 27, 1894. Corporal.
“ “ “	Aug. 9, 1896,	Sergeant. Commissioned 2nd Lieut. June 29, 1897.
Wagner, Jerome	July 2, 1891,	Jan. 26, 1893.
*Weeks, Walter	May 26, 1892,	Sept. 17, 1894.
*Whitemore, Wm. F.	Aug. 30, 1892,	Jan. 16, 1896.
“ “ “	Mch. 12, 1893,	
“ “ “	June 15, 1899,	June 14, 1900.
*Wood, Edwin B.	July 4, 1893,	Aug. 8, 1896. Corporal.
*Weeks, Charles D.	July 27, 1893,	
“ “ “	Aug. 31, 1896,	
“ “ “	Aug. 24, 1899,	
“ “ “	Aug. 24, 1900,	
*Weaver, Harry A.	Dec. 14, 1893,	Corporal, Sergeant.
“ “ “	June 15, 1897,	Commissioned 1st Lieut. Mch. 9, 1899.
Wallstone, Julius	Apr. 30, 1896,	Aug. 8, 1896.
Wallace, Martin	May 6, 1897,	Sept. 3, 1899.

Wilcox, Albert	July 28, 1899,	
Winans, Percy H.	Aug. 31, 1899,	
Warner, Jay C.	Mch. 1, 1900,	Apr. 19, 1901.
Weaver, Carl	May 3, 1900,	
Welch, Chris	May 7, 1900,	
Welch, Harry	Feb. 21, 1901,	
Wilbur, Sidney	Aug. 29, 1901,	
Webber, G. D.	Apr. 25, 1901,	Musician.
Yarbrough, William	May 6, 1897,	May 5, 1900.
Yopst, Birt O.	Aug. 31, 1899,	

## ROSTER OF COMPANY E.

A \* indicates service at the Chicago strike.

## COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

## CAPTAINS.

NAME	DATE OF COMMISSION	DATE OF PROMOTION RESIGNATION OR DISCHARGE.
John W. Niles,	Mch. 24, 1888,	Resigned Dec. 3, 1888.
*Frank Anthony	Dec. 20, 1888,	Appointed Assistant Surgeon with rank of Captain, Feb. 1, 1891.
*William F. Lawrie,	Feb. 13, 1891,	Commissioned Major Jan. 5, 1899.
J. Frank Wahl,	Feb. 9, 1899,	

## 1ST LIEUTENANTS.

Thomas S. Beach,	Mch. 24, 1888,	Resigned Nov. 3, 1888.
Lewis F. Eisele,	Dec. 20, 1888,	Resigned Oct. 17, 1890.
William F. Lawrie,	Dec. 13, 1890,	Commissioned Captain Feb. 13, 1891.
*Walter N. Haskell,	Feb. 13, 1891,	Resigned Nov. --, 1894.
Goodicil B. Dillon,	Nov. 12, 1894,	Placed on retired list up on his own request July 1, 1899.
Samuel H. Feigley,	July 14, 1899,	

## 2ND LIEUTENANTS.

Frank Anthony,	Mch. 24, 1888,	Commissioned Captain Dec. 20, 1888.
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William F. Lawrie,	Dec. 20, 1888,	Commissioned	1st Lieut.
		Dec. 13, 1890.	
Walter N. Haskell,	Dec. 13, 1890,	Commissioned	1st Lieut.
		Feb. 13, 1891.	
*Goodicil B. Dillon,	Feb. 13, 1891,	Commissioned	1st Lieut.
		Nov. 12, 1894.	
Edwin S. Johnson,	Nov. 12, 1894,	Resigned	Apr. 22, 1897.
J. Frank Wahl,	June 18, 1897,	Commissioned	Captain
		Feb. 9, 1899.	
Samuel H. Feigley,	Feb. 9, 1899,	Commissioned	1st Lieut.
		July 14, 1899.	
Charles F. Hoobler,	July 14, 1899,		

## ENLISTED MEN.

NAME	DATE OF ENLISTMENT	REMARKS.
Anthony, Frank	Mch. 24, 1888,	Commissioned 2nd Lieut. this date.
Angell, William H.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Sept. 2, 1890.
Allen, William E.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Dropped from rolls May 1, 1888.
Adair, Ambrose	Mch. 24, 1888,	S. O. No. 96, 1889.
Arey, Howard	Oct. 13, 1890,	May 22, 1894.
Allpress, Martin L.	June 27, 1892,	July 27, 1895.
Aument, Harry	July 15, 1895,	Mch. 22, 1898.
Anderson, Carl	Jan. 6, 1896,	Sept. 15, 1899.
Aument, Frank H.	Apr. 13, 1896,	
Atkins, E. Lyle	July 17, 1896,	Transferred to band no date.
Alderfer, Philip	Feb. 9, 1899,	
Anning, Clarence	May 20, 1899,	
Aument, Jacob H.	June 15, 1899,	
Beach, Thomas S.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Commissioned 1st Lieut. this date.
Burke, Harry F.	Mch. 24, 1888,	July 5, 1888.
" " "	May 20, 1889,	Transferred to Co. B July 20, 1889.
Bickford, Joseph M.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Dropped from rolls May 1, 1888.
Bassett, Orville P.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Sept. 2, 1890. Corporal.
Boyers, Joseph	Mch. 24, 1888,	May 23, 1890.
Baer, Frank L.	Jan. 21, 1889,	
Benson, William P.	Jan. 23, 1889,	S. O. No. 82, 1889.
Bressler, Heaton J.	Jan. 28, 1889,	

Burkholder, Charles I.	Nov. 18, 1889,	Corporal.	
" " "	Jan. 7, 1893,	Sergeant.	
" " "	Apr. 2, 1894,	Mch. 16, 1896.	
*Barber, Frank W.	Sept. 1, 1890,	Appointed Commissary date.	Regimental Sergt. no
Behrens, Charles	May 25, 1891,	May 14, 1892.	
*Buck, William	Apr. 25, 1892,	July 27, 1895.	Corporal.
*Boyer, Ralph D.	June 27, 1892,		
" " "	June, 3, 1895,	Apr. 22, 1896,	
*Bensinger, Chas. E.	Jan. 16, 1893,	Mch. 16, 1896.	
*Brown, W. A.	Jan. 16, 1893,	Mch. 16, 1896.	
Billings, Charles	Aug. 27, 1894,		
*Brown, Fred E.	Aug. 27, 1894,	Apr. 16, 1898.	
Baker, Romeo W.	Aug. 27, 1894,	Corporal.	
" " "	Feb. 28, 1898,		
Blair, Frank	July 8, 1895,		
Bushnell, Leo O.	Oct. 14, 1895,		
Burch, Fred R.	Apr. 6, 1896,	Mch. 22, 1898.	
Bassett, Edward	Apr. 20, 1896,		
Book, Enos	June 22, 1897,		
Bensinger, John E.	Mch. 7, 1898,		
Bassett, Bert	Mch. 28, 1898,		
Bailey, Frank C.	Mch. 29, 1898,		
Burr, James S.	Mch. 30, 1898,	Corporal,	
Byers, Wilson	Apr. 11, 1898,	May 2, 1899.	
Berlin, Clark	May 15, 1898,	July 2, 1900.	
Boyer, Kaohlin	May 17, 1898,		
Blair, George C.	Feb. 9, 1899,		
Betts, Verne E.	May 20, 1899,		
Baker, John H.	Apr. 30, 1901,		
Criswell, James F.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Corporal, Q. M. Sergeant.	
Conner, John R.	Mch. 24, 1888,	S. O. No. 105, 1889.	
Cook, Ward W.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Oct. 5, 1889.	
Cochrane, Albert G.	Mch. 24, 1888,	S. O. No. 36, 1889.	
*Cushman, John W.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Corporal, Sergeant.	Ap
" " "	Apr. 20, 1891,	pointed Regimental Ord-	
" " "	Sept. 14, 1894,	nance Sergt. Aug. —, 1899.	
" " "	Mch. 16, 1896,		
" " "	June 21, 1897,		
Crawford, Robert G.	Mch. 26, 1888,	S. O. No. 36, 1889.	
Clarkson, Matthew A.	June 21, 1888,	S. O. No. 82, 1889.	
Campbell, Walter S.	Jan. 28, 1889,		

Cash, Wilèy B.	Feb. 1, 1889,	July 18, 1892.
*Chalmers, John A.	May 25, 1891,	July 27, 1895.
“ “ “	July 27, 1895,	Transferred to band, no date.
*Cragin, Elmer A	Feb. 13, 1893,	
“ “ “	Feb. 24, 1896,	
“ “ “	Mch. 8, 1897,	
“ “ “	Mch. 21, 1898,	
Cunningham, Claire T.	Feb. 24, 1896,	
Compton, Claire	Mch. 30, 1896,	
Cary, Elroy R.	Apr. 13, 1896,	
Creider, William D.	Apr. 27, 1896,	
Cary, John	June 27, 1896,	
Coover, W. S.	June 22, 1897,	
Clark, Lyman P.	Sept. 6, 1897,	July 2, 1900.
Coryell, Frank M.	Feb. 28, 1898	Corporal, Sergeant.
“ “ “	Feb. 28, 1901.	
Cleary, Arthur M.	Mch. 28, 1898.	
Connell, William	May 11, 1898.	
Conner, C. Walter	Mch. 6 1899.	
Connell, James	May 10, 1899.	
Clark, Edgar L.	Apr. 30, 1901.	
Dillon, Goodiel	Mch. 24, 1888,	Sergeant. Commissioned
		2nd Lieut. Feb. 13, 1891.
*DeGroff, Bert L.	Sept. 1, 1890,	Feb. 10, 1894. Corporal.
“ “ “	Feb. 19, 1894,	Sergeant.
“ “ “	Mch. 25, 1895.	
Dickson, John A.	June 8, 1891.	
Deitz, Louis F.	June 4, 1892,	July 15, 1893.
*Davison, C. Morton	June 20, 1892,	July 16, 1895. Musician.
*Dillon, J. Reese	Apr. 9, 1894,	Mch. 16, 1897.
*Dow, John	June 8, 1894,	Mch. 16, 1897.
Deets, Frank G.	Sept. 23, 1895.	
Dunbar, Stowers	Oct. 11, 1895.	
Deem, Arthur E	Oct. 14, 1895,	Corporal, Sergeant.
“ “ “	Oct. 14, 1898,	1st Sergeant.
Deyo, D. B.	Mch. 2, 1896.	
Deem, William	June 27, 1896,	Corporal.
“ “	Dec. 4, 1899.	
Diffenbaugh, Benj. F.	Apr. 9, 1899.	
Eisele, Lewis F.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Sergeant. Commissioned
		1st Lieut. Dec. 20, 1888.



Ely, Frank D.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Oct. 31, 1889.	Corporal.
Eisele, Jacob L.	June 11, 1888,	Dec. 6, 1889.	
*Eick, Benjamin	Jan. 14, 1889.		
" "	Feb. 29, 1892,	Appointed Regimental Or-	
		dnance Sergeant, no	
		date.	
Eiteman, Wilford L.	June 8, 1891,	Mch. 29, 1894.	
*Engb, Alfred	June 8, 1894,	Apr. 22, 1896.	
Eshleman, F. Roy	June 3, 1895.		
Eisele, Edward L.	Mch. 7, 1898,	Corporal.	
Emmons, Frank	Feb. 9, 1899.		
Eager, Wallace L.	Feb. 9, 1899.		
Feigley, Oscar A.	June 21, 1888,	Corporal.	
" " "	Feb. 29, 1892,	Mch. 1, 1893.	
*Feigley, Samuel H.	Jan. 26, 1890,	Sergeant. 1st Sergeant.	
" " "	Feb. 19, 1894.	Commissioned 2nd Lieut.	
" " "	Mch. 25, 1895.	Feb. 9, 1899.	
" " "	Mch. 9, 1896.		
" " "	Mch. 22, 1897.		
Fitch, LeClair	June 22, 1891,	July 15, 1893.	
*Flock, Henry J.	June 20, 1892,	July 16, 1895.	Corporal
" " "	Mch. 2, 1896,	Sergeant.	
" " "	June 22, 1897.		
*Flock, Mathew	Sept. 25, 1893.		
Flock, William F.	June 22, 1897,	Corporal. Appointed Bat-	
		talion Sergeant Major	
		August 1899.	
Figeley, Joseph L.	June 22, 1897.		
Ford, R. Leonard	March 21, 1898.		
Fanning, Omar A.	Mch. 31, 1898.		
" " "	Apr. 28, 1901.		
Feigley, J. Lovure	May 15, 1899.		
Forrester, Frank M.	Apr. 30, 1901.		
Finch, Bert	Apr. 30, 1901.		
Grimes, Frank A.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Dec. 6, 1889.	
Grimes, Alfred N.	Jan. 23, 1889,	S. O. No. 118, 1891.	
*Green, Lourde J.	Mch. 18, 1889,	Musician.	
" " "	Jan. 30, 1893.		
" " "	Feb. 19, 1894.		
Grate, Wallace H.	Apr. 13, 1891.		
Golder, Lloyd H.	May 11, 1891.		
Grimes, Herbert	May 7, 1894.		
" "	June 21, 1897.		



Gaines, Charles N.	Mch. 30, 1896.	
Goodman, Harry C.	June 22, 1897.	
Grove, Clarence C.	June 22, 1897.	
Goltman, Harry K.	May 11, 1898,	July 2, 1900.
Grey, Arthur	May 31, 1899.	
Grimes, J. Leon	Jan. 8, 1900.	
Haberer, John A.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Oct. 31, 1889. 1st Sergeant.
Haskell, Walter N.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Sergeant. Commissioned 2nd Lieut. Dec. 13, 1890.
Hall, Charles E.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Corporal. S. O. No. 143, no date.
Hoover, Harry G.	Mch. 24, 1888.	Oct. 29, 1889.
Hills, Edward O.	Mch. 24, 1888.	
" " "	July 27, 1891.	
Hess, Albert H.	Mch. 24, 1888.	S. O. No. 82, 1889.
Howland, Harry F.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Sept. 2, 1890.
Haberly, Frank F.	Mch. 24, 1888,	S. O. No. 17, 1889.
Haskell, William W.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Corporal, Sergeant.
Hubbard, Charles L.	Mch. 26, 1888,	S. O. No. 36, 1889.
Herrman, Charles	Jan. 21, 1889.	
" "	Jan. 27, 1892.	
Hannan, George H.	Mch. 9, 1891,	Mch. 10, 1893.
Hodges, Stewart	May 25, 1891,	June 23, 1891.
Hessel, Carl J.	Jan. 16, 1893.	
*Hoobler, Charles F.	Mch. 26, 1894,	Corporal, Sergeant.
" " "	June 21, 1897,	Commissioned 2nd Lieut. July 14, 1899.
Hartman, John	Sept. 10, 1894.	
" "	Feb. 28, 1898.	
Harting, Frank K.	Mch. 2, 1896.	
" "	Jan. 8, 1900.	
Hankinson, Harry L.	Mch. 9, 1896.	
Higby, Leonard O.	Mch. 16, 1896.	
Hubbard, Arthur G.	July 17, 1896,	Transferred to band, no date.
Hess, Fred	Mch. 31, 1898,	Corporal, Sergeant.
Heathcoate, William	Feb. 7, 1899,	July 2, 1900.
Havens, George	Feb. 8, 1899,	Corporal, Sergeant,
Haberle, Edward E.	Feb. 9, 1899,	Corporal.
Heaton, Francis	May 20, 1899.	
Hoover, Ben H.	Jan. 8, 1900.	
Hoover, Harry H.	Jan. 8, 1900.	
Hoover, Arthur G.	May 21, 1900,	

Hartman, Andrew	Feb. 21, 1901.	
Husler, Fred	Apr. 30, 1901.	
*Isherwood, Earl	Nov. 11, 1889.	
“ “	Jan. 23, 1893.	
*Isherwood, George W.	June 25, 1894,	July 15, 1897.
Ingersoll, Frank B.	Mch. 31, 1898.	
“ “	Aug. 20, 1900.	
Johnson, J. Stanley	Mch. 24, 1888,	Mch. 10, 1890.
*Johnson, Edwin S.	May 31, 1889,	Corporal, Sergeant.
“ “ “	Feb. 20, 1893,	1st Sergeant.
“ “ “	Apr. 9, 1894.	Commissioned 2nd Lieut.
“ “ “	Apr. 15, 1898.	Nov. 12, 1894.
Jenkins, Alfred K.	May 31, 1889,	Oct. 18, 1890.
Johnson, Earl A.	Oct. 30, 1893,	May 18, 1894.
Johnson, Milton	June 11, 1894.	
Johnson, Charles S.	Apr. 27, 1896,	June, 1899.
Johnson, Charles A.	Mch. 31, 1898.	
Jackson, Arthur E.	Feb. 6, 1899.	
Jackson, William D.	Feb. 6, 1899.	
Jones, Richard O.	Feb. 8, 1899,	July 2, 1900.
Jackson, Merton R.	Feb. 6, 1899.	
Johnson, Fred A.	Feb. 27, 1899.	
Jamison, Paul R.	Apr. 30, 1901.	
*Kline, John L.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Appointed Hospital Stew- ard, no date.
Kilgour, Cassius M.	Mch. 18, 1889,	July 18, 1894. Musician.
Kissel, George B.	May 20, 1889,	S. O. No. 109, 1889.
Kelsey, William H.	Nov. 11, 1889.	
“ “ “	Jan. 30, 1893,	Feb. 10, 1894.
Koberstine, Henry W.	Sept. 1, 1890,	May 22, 1894.
*Kochersperger, John P.	Feb. 5, 1894,	Apr. 22, 1896.
*Kauffman, Fred W.	July 2, 1894,	Mch. 16, 1898. Corporal.
Keeney, H. Ezra	July 15, 1895,	Mch. 22, 1898.
Kromer, George J.	Feb. 24, 1896,	Aug. 3, 1896.
Kahl, Ernest	Apr. 27, 1896.	
Kadel, William W.	June 22, 1897.	
Kent, George G.	Apr. 30, 1901.	
Lawrie, William F.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Commissioned 2nd Lieut. Dec. 20, 1888.
Llewellyn, David	Mch. 24, 1888.	
Lee, John H.	Mch. 17, 1890.	
Lee, Daniel W.	Apr. 30, 1894.	
“ “ “	June 21, 1897,	

LeFevre, Harry F.	June 11, 1894.	
" " "	June 21, 1897,	Mch. 22, 1898.
LeFevre, Edwin W.	Mch. 23, 1896,	Transferred to Co. D. June 15, 1897.
Lingel, William J.	Mch. 30, 1896.	
Lingel, Bert	Apr. 27, 1896.	
Lyle, Guy H.	July 7, 1896,	Transferred to band, no date.
Limerick, John G.	July 17, 1896,	Transferred to band, no date.
Laland, Charles E.	Mch. 12, 1898.	
Little, Harry R.	Mch. 28, 1898	Aug. 1, 1899.
Lund, William C.	May 11, 1898,	Bugler.
Latherow, Walter	Feb. 8, 1899.	
Lindsley, Calvin A.	May 20, 1899.	
Landier, Herman	Feb. 21, 1901.	
Mangan, Samuel T.	Mch. 24, 1888.	Sergeant.
" " "	Apr. 20, 1891,	May 22, 1894.
Mangan, William F.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Corporal.
" " "	Apr. 27, 1891.	
Mangan, E. J.	Mch. 24, 1888,	May 23, 1890.
Mangan, R. L.	Mch. 24, 1888.	
" " "	Apr. 20, 1891,	May 22, 1894.
Myer, Adam B.	Mch. 24, 1888.	
" " "	June 22, 1891,	May 14, 1892.
Murphy, William H.	May 28, 1888.	
Miller, Herman T.	June 27, 1887,	Co. B. Transferred to Co. E S. O. No. 171, 1888. Dis- charged S. O. No. 82, 1889
Myers, Kahler	May 28, 1889,	Aug. 5, 1892.
Manahan, Samuel A.	Mch. 30, 1891.	May 14, 1892.
Miller, Henry	May 9, 1892,	Mch. 10, 1893.
Mueller, Ernest	Aug. 27, 1894.	
Meyers, Lee D.	Mch. 16, 1896.	
Morrison, Alfred G.	Mch. 30, 1896.	
Moore, Louis E.	June 22, 1897,	June 22, 1900.
Mc Neil, R. B.	June 22, 1897,	Nov. 10, 1899. Corporal.
Mangers, Charles J.	May 20, 1899.	
Mangan, Clarence L.	July 1, 1900.	
Mead, Clyde W.	Feb. 15, 1901.	
Niles, John W.	Mch. 24, 1888.	Commissioned Captain this date.
Newton, William A.	May 11, 1891,	May 22, 1894.
Newton, James H.	Apr. 18, 1892,	July 15, 1893.

*Nellen, Edward W.	July 2, 1894.	
Nelms, William W.	July 1, 1900.	
Osmer, Sydney C.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Mch. 10, 1890.
*Overholser, S. Guy	May 20, 1889,	Corporal, Sergeant.
" " "	July 18, 1892,	Battalion Sergeant
" " "	Dec. 18, 1893.	Major. No date.
" " "	Mch. 25, 1895.	
" " "	Mch. 22, 1897.	
Osborn, Harper	May 4, 1891,	Mch. 10, 1893.
Over, Charles B.	July 15, 1895.	
O'Hair, John	May 1, 1899.	
Onken, Anthony	May 15, 1899.	
Onken, George	Feb. 3, 1901.	
Pierce, Clarence	Mch. 26, 1888,	June 2, 1888.
Pratt, George F.	May 28, 1888,	Oct. 15, 1890.
Perry, Gentz	May 15, 1890,	Sept. 2, 1890.
Palmer, W. Carl	Oct. 20, 1890,	July 15, 1893.
Parks, Lucius W.	June 8, 1891,	
*Patton, Louis R.	June 18, 1892,	July 27, 1895.
*Perry, William H.	Apr. 30, 1894,	June 25, 1897.
*Phelps, W. Walter	Apr. 30, 1894,	June 25, 1897.
Pippert, Henry C.	June 23, 1895.	
Pigg, James W.	Apr. 13, 1896.	
Palmer, Wilbert M.	July 7, 1896,	Transferred to band, no date.
Payson, William E.	Feb. 7, 1899,	Enlisted in U. S. Army May 2, 1899.
Partridge, Harry G.	Feb. 3, 1901.	
Rock, Edwin S.	Mch. 24, 1888,	
Ramsey, Hugh H.	May 25, 1888,	July 18, 1892. Corporal, Sergeant.
Rood, Warren A.	May 28, 1888,	S. O. No. 87, 1889.
Rich, John H.	May 5, 1893,	July 15, 1893.
Reed, John A.	May 25, 1891.	
*Ridenour, Frank J.	June 11, 1894.	
Round, George	Mch. 2, 1896.	
Roland, Robert R.	Apr. 20, 1896.	
Reap, William	Mch. 30, 1898.	
Ramsdall, Charles D.	May 15, 1899.	
Stoddard, Fred R.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Corporal, Sergeant.
" " "	Apr. 27, 1891,	May 22, 1894.
Shumaker, Charles N.	Mch. 24, 1888,	July 5, 1888.
Smith, Jesse	Mch. 24, 1888.	
" "	June 1, 1891,	Mch. 1, 1893.

Smith, Robert E.	Mch. 26, 1888.	
Snively, John M.	June 4, 1888,	Oct. 18, 1890.
Sturtz, C. E.	July 30, 1888.	
Stroup, George O.	Oct. 14, 1889,	Mch. 3, 1893.
Strock, W. Chester	May 11, 1891.	
*St. John, Burton,	Apr. 18, 1892,	July 16, 1895.
St. John, Thomas E.	May 9, 1892,	Mch. 10, 1893.
*Shultz, O. B.	June 4, 1892,	July 16, 1895.
*Strock, Linnis L.	Nov. 16, 1892,	Mch. 16, 1896.
Sayers, William H.	Feb. 5, 1894,	Apr. 22, 1896.
*Sheldon, Leslie C.	Mch. 5, 1894.	
“ “ “	June 21, 1897.	
Strock, John F.	Oct. 14, 1895,	Mch. 6, 1899.
Struckman, Wm. C.	Oct. 14, 1895.	
Shafer, Harry	Feb. 24, 1896.	
Sheldon, Charles F.	Mch. 2, 1896,	Mch. 22, 1898.
Smith, Frank W.	Mch. 16, 1896.	
“ “ “	May 21, 1899.	
Shumaker, Hiram W.	July 17, 1896,	Transferred to band no date.
Soules, H. Arthur	June 22, 1897.	
Street, Albert L.	Mch. 7, 1898,	Corporal, Sergeant.
Stoner, Claude R.	Mch. 31, 1898.	
Smith, Edward A.	Mch. 31, 1898.	
Schaub, William H.	Mch. 31, 1898.	
Slade, George	May 15, 1898,	Nov. 6, 1899.
Scott, Harry A.	June 14, 1898.	
Sneed, Burt J.	Feb. 6, 1899,	Corporal.
Sneed, Fred W.	Feb. 8, 1899,	Corporal.
Sampson, John	Aug. 20, 1900.	
Shank, Andrew	Sept. 20, 1900.	
Shumaker, Harry E.	Apr. 30, 1901.	
Tumbleson, Charles F.	June 23, 1888,	S. O. No. 36, 1889.
“ “ “	Feb. 23, 1891,	Mch. 8, 1894.
“ “ “	July 30, 1894,	
Thomas, William H.	Feb. 23, 1891,	Mch. 8, 1894.
*Taylor, Frank H.	Dec. 11, 1893,	Apr. 22, 1896. Corporal.
Triggs, Alpheus	July 8, 1895.	
“ “	Feb. 27, 1899.	
Trefz, Julius	Jan. 6, 1896.	
Thorne, George	May 15, 1899.	
Thompson, Lloyd E.	May 20, 1899,	Corporal.
Troste, Samuel D.	Apr. 30, 1901.	

VanHorne, E. Burt	Mch. 20, 1888	Corporal, Sergeant.
"    "    "	Apr. 20, 1891,	May 9, 1894.
"    "    "	July 8, 1895,	July 15, 1896.
VanDrew, Clarence	Apr. 1, 1899.	
Verbeck, Clarence	Aug. 20, 1900.	
Woods, Rollin H.	Mch. 24, 1888,	S. O. No. 118, 1891. Corporal, Sergeant.
Woodworth, Clarence	Mch. 24, 1888,	Apr. 14, 1890. Corporal.
Williams, Albert W.	Mch. 24, 1888,	Apr. 14, 1896.
Williams, B. Frank	Mch. 24, 1888,	Corporal.
"    "    "	Apr. 13, 1891	
Winters, James C.	Mch. 24, 1888,	May 1, 1889.
Williams, Grant U.	June 4, 1888,	Oct. 7, 1888.
Williams, Jacob	May 16, 1889.	
"    "    "	June 27, 1892.	
*Wagley, Frank E.	May 22, 1889,	Corporal, Sergeant.
"    "    "	July 11, 1892.	
"    "    "	Dec. 18, 1893.	
"    "    "	Dec. 18, 1893.	
*Wildasin, Joshua	Mch. 2, 1891,	Corporal, Sergeant.
"    "    "	July 8, 1895.	
"    "    "	Sept. 28, 1896.	
*Wahl, J. Frank	May 25, 1891,	Corporal, Sergeant.
"    "    "	Mch. 25, 1895,	Commissioned 2nd Lieut.
		June 18, 1897.
Wetzel, John G.	June 29, 1891.	
Weaver, A. L.	June 27, 1892,	Oct. 23, 1893.
Wright, Frank S.	Feb. 13, 1893.	
*Woodyatt, Arthur H.	Feb. 13, 1893,	Corporal.
"    "    "	Mch. 9, 1896,	Mch. 16, 1897.
*Ward, Frank J.	June 18, 1894,	June 25, 1897.
Wagley, Fred E.	Aug. 27, 1894.	
Wroten, Frank	Oct. 1, 1894,	Mch. 16, 1898.
Woodard, John	July 8, 1895,	Apr. 22, 1896.
Watson, A. H.	Jan. 27, 1896.	
Wahl, Albert A.	Apr. 13, 1896.	
"    "    "	May 20, 1899.	
Wilkinson, Lee P.	Mch. 12, 1897.	
Winters, Carl	Mch. 21, 1898,	Corporal.
Wright, Fred F.	Mch. 28, 1898,	May 2, 1899.
Walch, Jeremiah	Feb. 9, 1899.	
Wise, Albert	Aug. 20, 1900.	





COL. C. E. BLEYER,  
Aide-de Camp.





## CHAPTER VII.

## THE SIXTH REGIMENT BAND. ITS ORGANIZATION AND HISTORY BRIEFLY TOLD.

It is to be much regretted that a more complete and detailed history of this organization was not obtained as, in the position it has held for the past five years and connected as it is with the Sixth Regiment Illinois National Guards, its members are highly esteemed by the enlisted men of the regiment and comrades they are in every sense of the word. More especially is this true of its members and the men of companies I and E. Combined they represent Whiteside County in the ranks of the State troops of Illinois. The tie of comradeship which binds them together is stronger and more lasting than that which connects them with the men of the remainder of the regiment which is lacking in the feeling of friendship arising from personal acquaintances existing among the band boys and the boys of I and E. For this reason every available fact was eagerly grasped and recorded, aiming to make this history and the history of those who may have served the State from Whiteside County as complete and entire as possible.

Very little can be related, with which the reader is not familiar, concerning the Sixth Regiment Band, pos-

sibly better known as the Keystone of Sterling. It was organized in Rock Falls, Ill., during the year of 1872 under the leadership of Freeman D. Rosebrook. Not long after the organization was perfected John Kadel became its leader and under this efficient management the band became famous as a musical organization even beyond the borders of our own State.

It has long been recognized as one of the most accomplished organizations of its kind in the State and its members have every reason to be proud of its thirty years of honorable record.

Director Kadel retired in the summer of 1896 and the guiding reins were placed in the hands of Professor F. C. Nixon. The headquarters were removed across the river and it became a Sterling organization where it has since remained.

During the same year it entered the service of the State as official band of the Sixth Regiment, Illinois National Guards, which position it retains today. At every annual encampment of State troops the band is found marching at the head of the regiment, a position of honor. In the commodious band stand erected on the grounds, nightly concerts are given, which are very pleasing to the tired soldiers and hundreds of visitors, who throng the spacious camp grounds. But to be seen at its best and to be fully appreciated, one should view and hear the band during dress parade, in which it takes a very prominent part.

The regiment is usually formed in double rank, extending in one continuous line nearly the full length of the parade grounds. The Colonel and his staff take their position on the opposite side of the grounds in front of and facing the regiment. In the rear and to the right

and left of the Colonel, the open field is black with the mass of visiting citizens, who congregate regularly to witness the most pleasing and attractive feature in the drill of the infantry troops. After a short drill in the manual of arms and the officers are instructed for the following day, the band, from its position on the right of the column, enforced by the bugle corps, moves forward about fifty paces, makes a half turn to the left and in full view of every one present marches the entire length of the line of motionless men in blue and, countermarching returns to its original position, keeping step, with a long swinging stride to the music, of a lively march, of its own production. The bugle corps sounds "retreat" and as the last echoes of the clear and resonant notes die away in the surrounding hills, the evening gun booms forth the soldiers good night, the band strikes up the animating notes of the national air, "The Star Spangled Banner," the reclining figures quickly arise, come to an "attention" and bare their heads to a man, old glory which has floated proudly from the tall flagstaff throughout the day is slowly lowered to the ground and put away until another sunrise.

For a brief moment, quiet, verging on painfulness, reigns over the scene and everyone is motionless as a statue.

The shades of night are falling. The shadows in the neighboring woods lengthen and become deeper and more indistinct. Not a sound is heard to mar the effect of the last sweet strains of melody as it floats softly o'er the green sward, touching a responsive chord in every heart, filling the breast of every one present with a fire and zeal experienced only on such occasions and difficult to portray

Surely it is an inspiring moment. As those men stand with heads uncovered, doing homage to a great nation, an indescribable sense of pride and pleasure steals over them. They are proud with the thought that the emblem of liberty and freedom, which was that moment lowered from view, and which was purchased and has been protected by the hearts blood of so many of our countrymen, was their flag; proud of the fact that they are children of this great union of states and citizens of this grand old state of Illinois, which gave to us such patriots as Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant and John A. Logan, and pleased that they are privileged to serve that State even in the humble capacity of an obscure member of the National Guard, and in that moment they feel they have received full recompense for the many hours of tiresome work given at home that they might be present at this time. The little child standing by the mothers side is strangely affected and looks wonderingly up into her face all unconscious that he is receiving the first lessons in the teachings of patriotism and love of country, but the seed is sown and an impression is made on that young mind, never to be forgotten.

The tension is relaxed and with one accord hats are replaced and all is bustle and confusion. Hoarse commands are given and repeated, the regiment is formed into a column of companies, the band takes its position in the front and they pass in review before the commanding officer of the regiment and the public, each company vying with the others in an attempt to preserve a solid front and an unwavering line. They then return to their quarters, the days duties are over.

To the onlooker it is a beautiful scene and one long to



MAJOR A. T. TOURTILLOTT  
Sixth Infantry.





be remembered. With each generation arising among such scenes and receiving the teachings of such lessons on every hand from early childhood to manhood, who can ever doubt the integrity of our country; who can even imagine the time to come when the stars and stripes will lie trampled in the dust and our people humbled by defeat? Not you or I, nor our children or our children's children. Centuries must elapse before such a wonderful change could take place.

An Englishman, making a tour of the United States, while riding across the country one day made the acquaintance of an elderly gentleman, who was sitting in the seat beside him. The conversation drifted to international affairs and to the matter of the mere handful of soldiers which represented our standing army. The Englishman put the question to the old gentleman "If difficulties should arise with a foreign country and troops called for, where would you get your soldiers?" Pointing out through the car window to where a half a dozen men were working in the fields, the old gentleman replied "If war came upon us and a call for troops was made, at least five of that half dozen men would throw down their tools and hurry to the nearest recruiting station and so it would be all over our land." "But can they fight" queried the Englishman. "It was such men as those that made it possible for us to whip you twice," replied the old man "and if we ever get into trouble with you again, we will go over to your country, put a rope on that little island of yours and tow it back home with us." At that the Englishman excused himself and moved up to the next car.

A regiment of soldiers without a band may be compared to a horse whose driver has lost his whip. He

may plod along in a manner but the moment the lash is regained and begins to tickle his back he takes a new lease on life. pricks up his ears, arches his neck and stepping high completes the journey at race horse speed. So it is with the soldier. He may be ever so weary, and his thoughts wandering far from his immediate surroundings, but the instant the band strikes the first note the spirit which lies dormant, awakens, and he is again the animated, watchful soldier with the welfare of his country uppermost in his mind and he moves about with a free step and light heart.

In time of service, or should the regiment get into action, the duties of the members of the band are to assist the hospital corps in aiding and caring for the wounded.

When the call for troops came and the Sixth regiment was ordered to Camp Tanner for service in war, the band boarded the train and reported for duty but unfortunately there were no provisions made for a band organization in the volunteer regiments. In Governor Tanner's instructions from Secretary of War, R. A. Alger, he was advised that "bands will be organized from the strength of the regiments as in the regular army." Thus it will be seen that it could not be mustered into the government service as a whole, and on May 1st nearly all of the band returned to their homes. John Prestine and Fred Forbes remained at Springfield and organized a volunteer band from the enlisted men of the regiment who were detailed from the different companies for this duty. John Prestine was appointed Chief Musician and Fred Forbes was made principal musician.

Upon the muster-out of the volunteer service and the return home of the Sixth Regiment, the Sterling band

naturally assumed its former position with comrade Prestine as leader.

The three years following have been years of continued success and while in attendance at Camp Lincoln during the last tour of duty it gave ample proof of its abilities, each man is an artist and a credit to the regiment.

In the years to come, bringing with them the many inevitable changes, may the good wishes of the men of the regiment follow the members of the band as steadfastly as has the kindly feeling which has existed in the eventful years past.



## PART II.



# UNITED STATES VOLUNTEER SERVICE, SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR OF 1898.

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## CHAPTER I.

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### ANXIOUS DAYS

By far the most interesting epoch in the history of the Illinois National Guard occurred during the period covering their services as U. S. Volunteers in the Spanish American War of 1898.

The causes which led up to this war are familiar to all. The long and determined struggle for freedom, of the people of the Island of Cuba has gone down in history. Under Spanish rule they had been bled by taxation for hundreds of years. They had been tyrannized and made to suffer indignations beyond all human endurance. The Governor Generals of the island were selected by the government of the mother country, Spain, apparently for their cruelty. For this quality they were world renowned and they practiced it upon these helpless people un-relentlessly, year after year, crushing and grinding them into veritable slavery, in the hopes of thus keeping their spirit broken and allowing no opportunity



to arise giving the people a foothold whereby they could make a stand for themselves. But Spain's efforts were fruitless and with a mere handful of loyal soldiers, under able leadership the Cubans made such headway as to attract the attention of the civilized nations of the world.

The loss of the island meant much to the Spanish government. The revenues derived from the system of robbery, hidden under the name of taxation, inaugurated years ago and rigidly adhered to, could not well be spared at this time and every effort was made to frustrate the object of the people of the sunny isle.

As the war dragged on and on with no prospect of its immediate close, and the funds of the Spanish government grew more depleted and her national credit more weak, her worst fears were aroused and a policy of butchery and criminal warfare was determined upon and put into practice, never before credited to a civilized nation.

The indignation of the American people knew no bounds. Within a few hours ride of the shores of our own fair land, at our very door, were a people imbibed with the same spirit shown by our fore-fathers in "76," fighting against great odds, for an object no less noble than did those of the immortal Washington's time, determined to suffer death to the last man or secure their independence.

Helplessly, they saw their homes pillaged and destroyed, their wives and families taken from them and driven like cattle, corralled and guarded by the thousands, to have insults heaped upon them without stint and to die from starvation in such numbers as to make the beautiful island reek with the stench of the decaying, unburied bodies of unfortunate men women and



WM. F. LAWRIE,  
Capt. Co. E, Sixth Inf., Vol.  
Present Rank, Major 6th Inf., Ill. N. G.



children.

With these heartrending scenes transpiring before their very eyes, with the loss of all that makes life beautiful and worth the living, these men became more deeply imbued with the spirit of freedom and a firm determination to give their all to the cause, to die fighting for a principle which must be recognized the world over as just and right, and they fought with the desperation of a wounded beast driven in a corner. Spain was as fully determined that success should never crown the efforts of the revolutionists and Spanish soldiers were poured into the island by thousands. The cruelties were increased, if such could be, and nothing left undone, no stone remained unturned which could aid in suppressing the insurrection.

Reports of this system of crime and butchery came to us daily. Sitting by the fireside in our peaceful homes, thinking of the sufferings of the Cuban people in their unequal fight, the history of our own country was brought vividly to the fore. The privations and sufferings those brave men endured that we might be a free and independent people, expanding and developing into the grandest, and most liberal country on earth, and how in the darkest hour the noble Frenchmen came to our aid and standing shoulder to shoulder with the Americans, they fought the war to a successful termination.

The spirit of independence which glowed in the breast of the redoubtable "minute man" of 1776 was inherited and fostered by the generations following and they could not stand idly by and see this wanton destruction continued without making a vigorous protest. But Spain would not listen to us. She reckoned without her host. Our people were getting restless and uncontrollable.

Excitement ran high and all over this broad land could be heard the ominous sound of war. The distant rumbling became louder and more distinct, a cloud had risen on the horizon, very small at first but increasing with such rapidity as may well have been a warning to the Spanish people, but they were blind to everything, smarting from the defeats met with at the hands of the Cuban soldiers and they went doggedly forward to their own destruction.

War, war, war, go where you would one heard nothing but the talk of war. On every street corner groups of excited men congregated. In every village store and in every farm house the sole topic was war. The older ones relating incidents of the Civil War, describing scenes of death and carnage, telling of hair breadth escapes and of deeds of valor performed by men wearing the blue or the grey. The younger men became more enthusiastic with each hour and anxiously awaited for the President to declare war and issue a call for troops.

In the quiet of the homes the father and mother would sit pouring over the daily papers, closely following every action of the officials at Washington, hoping against hope that the war clouds might clear away without the necessity of throwing our peaceful land into the turmoil of an armed conflict with the dark and treacherous people beyond the sea.

Not that they would withhold the aid which they knew our people would tender the intrepid Cuban soldier. Not that they feared the final result of such action. But they had passed through the ordeal years before and they knew the horrors of war and the distressing scenes brought about by it and their thoughts flew back-

ward to the dark days of 1861 and 65. Again they saw the father, husband or son marching away to face unknown dangers perhaps never to return, they heard the roar of the cannon as it belched forth its fiery flame and hurled its leaden messenger of death into the midst of the loyal men who rallied about the stars and stripes when danger threatened the honor of our glorious republic. Closing their eyes they could again see it all. The mangled forms of the dead and dying lying all about. The wounded calling for succor and aiding each other. The scene is changed and they see long rows of trenches filled with the bodies of unknown heroes who had given their all for the love of their country.

Then came the search for missing loved ones. The mother looking for the son, the wife for the husband and father and the gentle timid maiden searching for her sweetheart. Perhaps he is found among the wounded, and again they may search in vain, at last to turn reluctantly away, with a heavy heart, realizing their dear one lies in an unknown grave, sleeping side by side with hundreds of his brave but unfortunate comrades. "Mustered out," for him the last long roll has sounded. Another scene presents itself. The return of the soldier. He comes slowly down the old familiar path, the waiting wife or mother hurries, with extended arms to greet him, she stops and her arms fall listlessly to her side, her heart stands still, overflowing with pride and love and sorrow.

There he stands, in faded blue, with white and haggard face. The empty sleeve or the crutch upon which he rests, speaks volumes or the hungry eager look and the wasted emaciated form may tell the story of weeks and months of prison life which was worse

than death. Can this be the man who, not long before, marched proudly away, so full of life and vigor and now stands before her as helpless as a child? He totters and is about to fall, she springs forward closing him in a long fond embrace and they find relief in their mingling tears.

This man to whom home and family were precious, this man who perhaps must go through life maimed and crippled, an object of pity to all his fellow men, broke home ties, turning from his loved ones with an aching heart, to sacrifice his all if need be on the altar of his country. And why? Because that independent, liberty-loving spirit born in every true American, places the love and honor of his flag and his country before all else. There are no sacrifices he will not make, no dangers he dare not face when the hour of peril comes.

As the parents sat dreamily thinking of these troublesome days the full meaning of war and its many painful scenes came forcibly to their minds. They realize that should the call to arms come, their sons will be among the first to volunteer, and their hearts are heavy with dread and anxious waiting. They will not put forth a staying hand. They will not detain them, but they will part from them with a full realization of what they may expect. The kind father, the gentle mother and the loving wife all had their doubts and fears and the suspense was very trying.





CAPT. W. F. COLEBAUGH,  
Commanding Co. I, Vol.



## CHAPTER II.

With a single voice our people were urging the Washington government to make a decided stand to recognize the Cuban revolutionists as belligerents and declare war if necessary. Cooler heads saw the folly of rushing madly into this conflict. If war must come, it was of the utmost importance that extensive preparations should be made and carried forward energetically. There must come a test of strength on the sea. The fleet of naval vessels was increased and put into condition with all possible speed. These floating fortresses were of the newest designs and equipped with all the modern munitions of war, yet they were practically untried, and many were fearful of the outcome should there come a clash between these monster fighting-machines and those of the Spanish navy.

With every indication pointing to an early outbreak, an incident occurred which forced matters to a climax and brought our people to their feet with a bound. The first class battleship *Maine*, while lying in a friendly harbor, bent upon a peaceful mission, was blown up from an external explosion, and more than two hundred and fifty souls were hurled into eternity, without a moment's warning. These American seamen, lying asleep in their hammocks, all unconscious of the pending danger, were mur-

dered by a villainous hand and cries of vengeance were heard on every side, coupled with the sobs of anguish and distress from the lips of bereaved parents, wives and sweethearts. Our hearts went out to the dead and dying heroes and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, our people rose as one man and demanded satisfaction. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, yes and tenfold.

The Maine was blown up while lying in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, February 15th, 1898.

"A board of inquiry was appointed to investigate the cause of the explosion and proceeded to Havana and began its investigation February 21st. After an exhaustive examination of the wreck, and after taking the testimony of witnesses and of experts, the board reported on the 21st of March that the Maine had been destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, but that it was unable to fix the responsibility upon any person or persons. It was evident that the cause of the disaster must have been from the outside."

Although this board of inquiry failed to point out the guilty ones, the American people were quick to decide the question in their own minds and no amount of argument could induce them to think differently. They eagerly awaited the declaration of war and the beginning of hostilities that the men might shoulder their muskets and be off to wreak vengeance on the heads of this treacherous foe who worked under the cover of darkness and "stabbed innocent men in the back." Our dislike for the Spanish was equal to that of the Cubans, and no power on earth could stem the tide or turn back the wave of righteous indignation which swept over this broad land.

On April 21st, 1898, Congress declared war. Under an act of Congress, approved April 22nd, 1898, and issued April 23rd, the President made a call for 125,000 volunteers.

The following is an extract from a telegram received by the Governor of Illinois from the War Department at Washington:

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 25TH, 1898.

The Governor of Illinois—

The number of troops from your State under the call of the President, dated April 23, 1898, will be seven regiments of infantry and one regiment of cavalry. It is the wish of the President that the regiments of the National Guard or State Militia shall be used as far as their numbers will permit, for the reason that they are armed, equipped and drilled. \* \* \* \*

R. A. ALGER,

Secretary of War.

Previously, on February 17th, while the General Assembly of Illinois was in extra session, it adopted resolutions, authorizing the Governor "to tender to the President of the United States all moral and material support that may be necessary in this emergency to maintain the proper dignity of our republic and the honor of the American flag."

"It will thus be seen that Illinois, through her patriotic Governor, was the first of all the Union to assure the President of the United States that the moral and material support of a great State was his, that Illinois, with all her treasures of men and money, with all her wealth of patriotic blood, was ready to support him, the honor of our country and the flag of our Union."

—From thy valleys and thy prairies, Illinois,  
Illinois.

Illinois was the first state in the Union to mobilize its volunteer quota under the first call, the first to be mustered into the United States service; the first to report for duty at the volunteer camps and during each stage of the war, Illinois was represented in the van both on land and sea. History not only repeats itself but adds luster to a glorious name. Thus it was with Illinois in the Spanish-American War. Its citizen soldiery cast aside peaceful pursuits and adapted itself to the needs of war with an ease and brilliancy eclipsed by no other State in the Union. Its infantry organizations were within the arena of combat, both in Cuba and Porto Rico, while its sailors enjoyed a peculiar distinction on board the victorious vessels of war at Santiago, in which no other State shares.

This is not fulsome praise, but simply what history will chronicle when the events of the war and the heroism of each component body of the American army, are viewed in the light of a well balanced judgment.

Illinois' ready response to the call for volunteers was an inspiration in itself. The massing of an army of over 8,000 citizen-soldiers at the State rendezvous within twenty-four hours after the call was flashed to every community and village of the State, was a feat unsurpassed.

Each regiment responded "Ready" without asking any conditions, what the rations would be, without thought of the trials, discomforts and inevitable hardships of soldiers in the field. It was the buoyant, strong and healthy manhood of the State which spoke in accents of patriotism that could not be doubted. Behind



GOODRICH B. DILLON,  
1st Lieut. Co. E, Vol.





this great army of citizen-soldiers which Illinois offered as its first contribution of fighting material to the government, stood an army, nondescript, undisciplined, but fired by patriotic zeal, all evincing with one accord, eagerness to bear the standard of Illinois into every field of battle. This was the provisional army which rallied as if by magic in every village, town and large community in the State.

The States of the union which had as many troops right in the centers of conflict, upon which the eyes of the world were focused, may be counted on the fingers of one hand. By far the larger portion of the first army sent out in response to President McKinley's call for 125,000 volunteers, took the oath to join federal service with many years of State militia service to its credit. These men knew how to handle their guns, understood the manual of arms and maintained a standard of discipline which was a rarity in most volunteer troops. The professions, trades and occupations which the volunteers of Illinois abandoned to defend the honor of the nation and help liberate the victims of Spanish misrule, embraced every imaginary calling from the highest to the humblest.

Little wonder then that the State of Illinois is proud of the men who represented her in the war with Spain.

In the trenches before Santiago, or on the warships with Sampson and Schley, making forced marches across the Island of Porto Rico, skirmishing with the Spaniards or guarding the yellow fever hospitals, in camp as well as in the field the men from Illinois infantry, artillery, cavalry, engineers and marines acquitted themselves with credit to their state.

And if those in one regiment or detachment or

branch of the service apparently acquired more honor and fame than those in another, it was merely because their opportunities were greater. So far as it was permitted them, every man displayed the courage and fortitude that combine to make the hero, and every one did his full duty to his country. In honoring them Illinois honors herself.

In considering these matters, it should be borne in mind that the most soldierly qualities may be found in camp as well as on the field of battle: that while \$15.60 a month may pay a man for acquiring fame for himself under fire, it requires a large measure of devotion to country to accept it without protest as full recompense for the irksome and thankless duties of garrison or camp life. The men who passed the summer in camps, drilling and preparing themselves for the duties it was expected would devolve upon them later, have to add dissatisfaction to whatever else they may have endured. Their opportunity did not come, and the tendency of the world is to overlook the devotion and courage that do not border on the sensational.

#### TO THE VOLUNTEERS OF ILLINOIS.

Troops the nation called one day,  
Men of valor, strong and steady;  
Ere the echo died away  
Illinois had answered "Ready."

While the call was yet resounding,  
Came the boys from bench and stool;  
From the town and farms surrounding,  
Eager students in war's school;  
Boys from every walk and station,  
Sons of parents rich and poor,  
Stirred to righteous indignation  
By the suffering at our door.

Death and danger all unheeded,  
Fearing neither sword nor ball,  
Three and four fold more than needed  
Answered to the nation's call;  
Every youth our thanks deserving  
For a duty nobly done,  
Faith and purpose most unswerving,  
Though no field his daring won.

In the camps and on the ocean,  
Braving Cuba's tropic heat,  
Proving ever their devotion,  
Knowing nothing of defeat;  
All they had thus bravely tendered,  
Here and there death claimed a boy  
Freely but with tears surrendered  
By the State of Illinois.

\* \* \* \* \*

Troops the nation called one day,  
Men of valor, strong and steady;  
Ere the echo died away  
Illinois had answered "Ready."

ELLIOTT FLOWER.

## CHAPTER III.

From the hour that the news was received that war had been declared, excitement increased. The men of the National Guard were speculating on the probabilities of their being called to the front. There appeared to be but little room for doubt in this matter, yet it was very uncertain until the company commanders received orders to increase the ranks of the enlisted men to the maximum, eighty-five, and to prepare for a hurried departure on receipt of orders to move. Shortly after twelve o'clock on the morning of April twenty-sixth, Captains Colebaugh and Lawrie received telegraphic instructions from Colonel D. J. Foster to report with their companies at the State Fair Grounds, near Springfield, not later than noon of April twenty-seventh. The Illinois National Guard was to mobilize at this point for war service.

This brought matters to a crisis and a long list of emergency men was added to the register of the regular enlisted men of the companies. They came from all directions, on foot, on horseback and by train. They came from the farms, and country towns surrounding, from the schools, the stores and the professions until there was room for no more, all eager and anxious to don the blue that their fathers wore a generation back.



E. C. LAWTON,  
1st Lieut. Co. I, Sixth Ill. Vol.





On sober thought it was a serious matter and to many it meant a battle within themselves, but whatever misgivings were brought to the fore they were thrust to one side and the single idea of taking a place in the ranks, side by side with loyal friends, was kept constantly before them.

With their names once entered on the roll, none but a coward would flinch from the duties which were before them, regardless of their nature. This thought gave them courage to look the situation squarely in the face and to part with their loved-ones with a sense of fulfilling a duty which they felt was theirs although it might mean a long and possibly last separation. The instinct for fair treatment was aroused within them and they were spoiling for a fight, not a disgraceful slugging match but an honorable meeting with the foe they had learned to dislike so heartily, where the whole world stood by as judges and right and justice would triumph.

Naturally, the home towns of the two companies of National Guards became the central points for the congregating of the many citizens of the county. As the day wore on the crowds increased to unparalleled proportions with amazing rapidity. The moments and hours passed quickly, and the hour for departure was close at hand before it was fully realized. The good-byes were yet to be said, and many a friend almost forgotten in the hurry and excitement came forward with outstretched hands and although no outward sign was visible, true friendship could be read in the hearty clasp of the hand and gazing straight into each others eyes, they saw something there which strangely impressed them and they knew that the good-byes and good-wishes

which were being said, were not thoughtlessly given, but came from the heart.

Not for years had there been such a gathering of the citizens as occurred in these towns on that memorable day. Young and old, rich and poor alike, jostled each other in an attempt to secure a point of vantage. Men there were in those lines who were among strangers, yet they were quickly made to see that every one was their friend. The events occurring in those fleeting moments were indelibly stamped upon the minds of all who were present, and to the volunteer, it marked the beginning of an epoch in his life, the picture of which, Father Time, wielding his ever ready sickle, can not dim, and in after years, in reflecting on the past, he may, in imagination, wander back to those days and feel truly thankful that it was his lot to be among the fortunate ones who could in no other manner give proof of their true Americanism. Hundreds more there were ready and willing to serve their country but at that time there was no room for them and they could do nothing but remain at home.

Not the least conspicuous among the throng were the veterans of the war of the rebellion. Old men with bent forms and locks of silvery grey, the hand of time resting heavily upon them were made young again; they stood erect and their eyes shone brightly, while their thoughts wandered back to the days of their youth and they imagined they were again in the ranks wearing the blue. They seemed to hear the stirring notes of the martial music as it pealed forth from fife and drum and they were once more among the "fields of cotton and of cane," fighting over the battles of nearly two score years ago where oft times brother met brother and

father met son in a desperate struggle for supremacy.

As these long to be remembered scenes flitted rapidly before them their hearts grew warm and the patriotic fire which burned so fiercely in their breasts long years ago but which had slumbered for a generation, was rekindled and flamed up with renewed strength and vigor; they, for the moment, forgot their surroundings and looking beyond the swaying crowds saw many familiar faces the memory of which the lapse of time had dimmed. Tender recollections flooded their minds and they were lost to the bustle and activity about them until awakened from their dreams with a start as the command "attention" rang out sharp and clear and the eager boys, soldiers of another generation, fell quickly into line to receive their final orders before boarding the awaiting train.

The old soldier cast a critical eye down the line of youthful faces and mentally repeated, it is well for them that they know not what may be before them and he thanked God that Mason and Dixons Line has been swept away and if go they must and should their lot bring them to an honorable death on the field of battle they were taking no chance of being laid low by the hand of one of their own flesh and blood. There was but one sentiment among the people; not two but seventy millions of souls with but a single thought. No more substantial evidence of this fact could have been established than did Congress, when, without a dissenting voice, it voted fifty millions of dollars into the hands of President McKinley as an emergency fund in preparing the troops for the field. Not alone was this proof of the sentiment of the people as to the action they considered necessary but it also bore witness of the

implicit faith and confidence which they placed in the man at the helm.

After the final preparations were made and all in readiness, those boys, in whose keeping was placed the honor of Whiteside county, in this test of strength with a foreign foe, marched out into the night and down the street through the living lanes to the depot; the crowds cheering themselves hoarse in an effort to show their appreciation of the offering made by the boys in line in thus voluntarily placing their slight aid at the disposal of the government. As they drew near the station the crowds became more dense and it was a difficult matter to make ones way through the throng. For numbers and enthusiasm no such gatherings had been witnessed since the days of the Civil war.

With but a few moments at their disposal the boys bade their friends and relatives a last farwell; the mothers, sisters and wives, smiling through their tears, admonished the departing soldiers to remember the homes they were about to leave and those about them; the sweethearts, forgetting their natural timidity, turned blanched faces upward to the quiet, thoughtful visages of the youthful soldiers to receive the parting caresses and breathing words of encouragement into each others ears, they separated; the kind fathers and brothers ill at ease yet cheerfull, grasped the outstretched hands and in the glare of the nearby arc lights, in a low but earnest tone, cautioned the volunteers to do their duty as soldiers fearlessly; that unlooked for trials might come and in the dark hours for them to remember that the eyes of the folks at home were upon them and their hearts with them always; that in the history of our country many high examples of the faithful, patriotic



J. FRANK WAHL,  
2nd Lieut. Co. E Vol.  
Later, Capt. Co. E, Ill. N. G.





soldier shone forth and should the occasion demand it, much would be expected from the volunteer soldiers of 1898; they placed every confidence in their courage and abilities and would eagerly await their triumphal home coming, certain that they would bring with them such records as would establish new marks in history of the qualities of the American Volunteer soldier.

The clanging of the engine bell was the signal for the waiting soldiers to board the cars and amid the wild cheering of the throngs they were off.

Company I with three commissioned officers and eighty-five men left Morrison at ten o'clock on the night of April 26th, Walter Burritt, Quartermaster Sergeant of the first Battalion accompanying them; arriving at Sterling twenty minutes later they were joined by company E with three commissioned officers and eighty men, also the Sixth Regiment Band, with John Prestine, Chief musician and Fred Forbes, principal musician. Regimental Surgeon, Frank Anthony, Captain Ben Eick, Regimental Sergeant Major, Ned Johnson and Hospital Stewards John Kline, Fred Brown and Howard Geyer, of the Sixth Regiment, all of Sterling also boarded the special train here.

Leaving Sterling at ten forty-five p.m. we were again enroute. Little time for serious consideration and thought had been given us. Now that we were alone and away from the excitement which had prevailed for some time previous to our departure, the countenances of many of those in the half lighted cars grew serious as the full realization of what might be before us dawned upon them. There was not the slightest indication of fear, but scanning the faces of our comrades, a resolute look was readily discernable which bespoke of deter-



mined minds and a settled purpose, and, inexperienced as we were in the trials and possible dangers of war, we were alive to the situation and with our hearts in the work which was before us and a just God to watch o'er and protect us, we felt that all would end well.

With the last tender good-byes and good wishes of our friends and relatives still ringing in our ears, it naturally left us somewhat low spirited, but the dullness was soon dispelled and as we rolled into Dixon at eleven o'clock we were as jolly as a pleasure party.

We were backed over the Y to the Illinois Central tracks avoiding the march between depots and giving us through car service to Springfield, which was much appreciated by us.

We were ordered to lay here, awaiting the arrival of company M of Galena, General Grants old home.

Companies I and E, headed by the Sixth Regiment Band, marched down town to company G's armory and were lunched by the patriotic people of Dixon. The lateness of the hour having no apparent effect on the number or enthusiasm of the throng which had gathered to witness the departure of their own soldier boys and we were treated royally.

At four o'clock the following morning, April 27th, companies I and E enforced by G of Dixon and M of Galena, boarded the cars for the final ride to Springfield. We were given a very creditable run from Dixon, making but few stops. We picked up company K of Lamoille at Mendota, this making a heavy train of eleven coaches, all crowded, and three large box cars of baggage.

Company L of Freeport, which had been following us with a very light train passed us here.

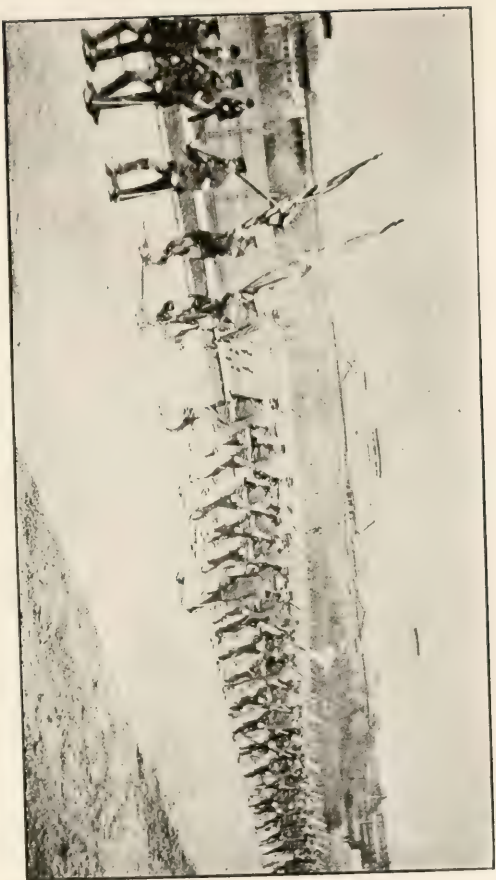
As we reached the coal mining district the boys began to arouse themselves, and as we neared LaSalle miners began to pop up all around us on both sides of the swiftly moving train: from every direction we could see them with the small lamps attached to their caps and dinner buckets in hand, soon they would be lowered into the bowels of mother earth, there in the darkness to toil through the long weary hours, digging out the fuel which might ere long furnish the power to drive our mighty warships across the trackless ocean in search of our wily enemies, the Spaniards.

At every town along the route crowds had gathered to cheer us as we sped by. "Old Glory" could be seen on every hand. It caused hearts to beat a trifle quicker and heads to be thrown back and a very war-like spirit would steal o'er us as we heard the cry of "Cuba and freedom." The country between LaSalle and Clinton is quite flat and considerable of this section was under water.

Arriving at Clinton we were backed over onto the Springfield branch and ran down to the lunch counter. We were given fifteen minutes to lunch, and soon the station grounds were covered with boys with both hands full of food. We found another large gathering here to greet us.

Changing engines we were again on the road with but a few miles intervening before reaching our destination. Our train was compelled to run quite slow at several points through this section on account of heavy rains having caused several washouts, and at one point in particular the roadbed had been carried away entirely for a stretch of about fifteen rods, but had been temporarily repaired.

At eleven fifteen we entered Springfield. The State Fair Grounds being some distance from where we entered the city, we were picked up by a switch engine and run down to Camp Tanner, as the rendezvous at the Fair Grounds had been officially designated by Brigadier General Barkley, Post Commander. A draw bar was pulled out of one of the coaches which caused a delay of nearly two hours. We marched into the camp grounds at one thirty p. m. Nearly all of the State troops had arrived in advance of our delayed train. The Third and Sixth regiments were assigned quarters in the Exhibition Building; the First, Second, Fourth and Fifth were located in the various buildings scattered about the grounds. The Seventh was under tents in the center of the race course. Governor Tanner, Commander-in-Chief of the State troops, established headquarters in the Dome Building. The Commissary Department was located in the Poultry Building, separated from our quarters by a long high bridge that spanned a wide, dry ravine which coursed through the grounds.



Sixth Regt. on practice march at Camp Tanner, Springfield.



## CHAPTER IV.

Disorder prevailed, and it was impossible to learn anything regarding our future movements. The commissary sergeants went immediately on a foraging expedition: food was scarce, but success finally crowned their efforts and by night we had coffee boiling and meat cooking. As we were weary and somewhat hungry our first meal in camp was relished by all, and our drooping spirits were soon revived. Accommodations for lodging were poor, and we were initiated in our soldier life by turning in on plank and cement floors with newspapers for coverings. Considering the gigantic task of mobilizing eight or ten thousand troops from all over the State within twenty-four hours after the call, we felt that we were fortunate in securing the attention that was ours and we did not complain.

With the dawn of the following day, order and comparative quietness succeeded where chaos and confusion had reigned. We awoke to find sentinels patrolling the quarters, and everything had taken on the aspect of a soldier camp. Rubbing our eyes and looking about we wondered if we were dreaming: the last notes of "reveille" were vibrating through the large building, and after thoroughly shaking ourselves we realized the stern reality of our position. As a rule the boys met the situation

in a matter of fact way and readily adapted themselves to their surroundings, moving about, attending their duties quietly and in such a manner as might well have led the casual observer to believe that soldiering was an every day experience in the lives of many of these men.

The first act of General James H. Barkley, in command of the entire Illinois National Guard, until such time as the entire organization was turned over to the government, was to issue his first general order as follows:

"By direction of the commander-in-chief, Governor John R. Tanner I hereby assume command of this post. The staff of the Second brigade will act in their respective departments at this post."

"The camp will be known in the official correspondence as Camp Tanner. The necessary orders for running the camp followed. Under the order Lieutenant J. Mack Tanner was appointed post adjutant. Lieutenant Colonel George N. Krieder, post surgeon. Major Lincoln DuBois, post commissary. Other members of the staff were: General William Clendenin, inspector general. Lieutenant Colonel Henry Davis, assistant inspector general. Lieutenant R. D. Loose, Lieutenant George Pashfield, Jr., Lieutenant Ricard, aides."

We were governed by the following service calls:

Reveille,	-	-	-	5:30 a. m.
Fatigue call,	-	-	-	6:00 a. m.
Mess call,	-	-	-	6:30 a. m.
Sick call,	-	-	-	7:00 a. m.
Drill call,	-	-	-	8:00 a. m.
Recall,	-	-	-	9:30 a. m.
School call, (officers)	-	-	-	10:30 a. m.
First sergeant's call,	-	-	-	11:00 a. m.
Mess call,	-	-	-	12:00 m.



Drill call.	-	-	-	1:30 p. m.
Recall.	-	-	-	3:30 p. m.
Guard mount.	-	-	-	4:30 p. m.
Mess call.	-	-	-	5:00 p. m.
Assembly parade.	-	-	-	6:00 p. m.
Tattoo.	-	-	-	9:30 p. m.
Taps.	-	-	-	10:00 p. m.

Major Anthony and his corps of assistants were busily engaged in establishing a hospital and equipping it with the necessary cots and blankets, securing a supply of medicines and otherwise preparing to receive the sick which experience had taught them would surely come. These arrangements were completed none too soon, as the volunteers, many of them unused to the severe training they were given, succumbed to the heat and only the prompt and effective treatment received at the hospital prevented a number from serious illness.

The first few days of drilling, to the uninitiated, was found to be hard work and had a tendency to dampen the ardor of a few of the less patriotic. A number of them found that it would be impossible to remain with the regiment as circumstances were such as necessitated their presence at home and although they regretted very much to leave us yet they were compelled to do so.

Men in squads and full companies, marching and countermarching covered the camp grounds. Troopers and mounted officers galloping here and there gave a very war-like appearance to the camp.

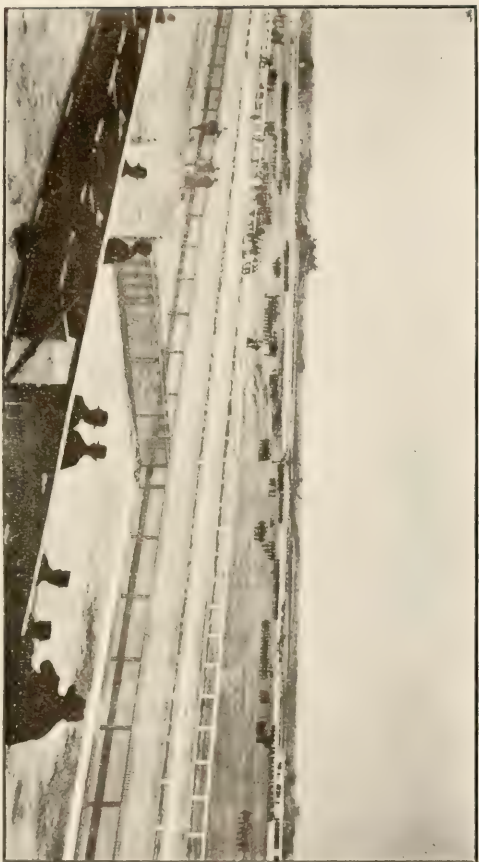
April twenty ninth, companies I and E were given a preliminary examination. Company E came through the test without the loss of a man while company I had seven rejected. This examination was given us by Major An-

thony and his assistants.

On Saturday, April thirtieth, the Third and Sixth regiments were ordered out for their first long march. It had rained considerable since our arrival and the roads were in bad condition; this added to the other difficulties of not being fully prepared for the call made it quite severe for the boys. They made a grand showing, coming in from the five mile tramp with as regular a step and unbroken line as when leaving camp. Orders were issued to continue the practice marches each day and gradually increase the distance to from ten to twenty miles. This was necessary to work the men into condition for actual service.

The following day, Sunday, great crowds of visitors swarmed into camp. It was estimated that nearly fifty thousand people, exclusive of the soldiers, were on the grounds that day. They gazed at us as though we were curiosities. We looked hard in return, searching for a familiar face in the throng. Sometimes we were rewarded with a smile and a nod only to chase the donor up to find it was a case of mistaken identity. The company mess tents were pitched on a hillside, facing the high bridge. During mess the bridge was lined with people watching us devour hard tack and sowbelly. During the Sunday dinner, one of the boys remarked, "They look at us as though they thought we were a lot of Indians," and another member retorted "What are we but a lot of Indians?" A running fire of friendly repartee was kept up continually between the soldiers and their smiling, good natured visitors.

Fully one half of the men had not the first mark of a soldier in their dress, and excepting the officers, hardly a man was visible who possessed a complete uniform.



Center of race track utilized as drill and parade grounds at Camp Tanner, as  
viewed from the amphitheater.



It was a very noticable fact that while the volunteer who was fortunate in securing a uniform, was the recipient of many bright smiles and shy glances from the ever present fair visitors, and much sought after by the ladies' affable, inquisitive, gentleman companions; the comrade at his side who had recently staked him with his last quarter, but who was decked in the garments of an ordinary citizen, with, perhaps the exception of possessing a pair of government socks, met with a cold stare and a "sir!" that caused him to have cold feet, if he ventured to reply to any of the hundreds of questions which were plied to the "real soldier." Feeling himself growing smaller each moment the un-uniformed volunteer retired to some quiet corner to reflect on the ways of mankind, the while consoling himself with the thought that although he was minus the outward mark of Uncle Sam's servants he was full to overflowing with fight that moment, and he nursed his injured pride tenderly until sought out by his more fortunate comrade who greeted him with a merry twinkle in his eye and the encouraging remark, "cheer up comrade, it may not be true." His spirit, dampened for the time but naturally buoyant, soon revived and the rebuff thoughtlessly given was forgotten.

The first few days passed quickly. The company commanders were kept hard at work preparing their men for the physical examination, securing and issuing clothing and ordnance supplies, making up preparatory muster rolls and finding apparently endless work before them. The men settled down to the task of making soldiers of themselves. They were earnest students in the school of war and worked steadily, becoming more proficient in the drill and maneuvers with each day. The officers were all old members of the National Guard

and as a rule were well versed in the teachings they bestowed on the less tutored but willing man in the ranks. It was with much pride and pleasure that the officers witnessed the gradual development of the men as they were slowly but surely transformed from an awkward throng into an army of trained troops. True, a few days schooling could not bring about the desired result in attaining such a thorough training as is expected of the regular army man, yet the regular was the ideal for the time being, of the volunteers and setting their mark high and grasping every opportunity to make their advance as rapid as possible, they more readily mastered the difficulties which presented themselves and they forged ahead at a pace as unexpected as it was desired by the officers in command.

The practice marches were continued each day but the stormy weather which prevailed prevented them from making the distance as originally planned. To the men who had several years of service in the National Guard to their credit, the work came with less fatigue than to those who were receiving their primary teachings in the school of war and it was pure grit alone that pulled many of them through when at times it appeared that they were unable to endure the severe training given them.

The First regiment of cavalry was among the troops early upon the scene. This with the seven regiments of infantry which were there, completed the mobilization of the Illinois troops. In view of the fact that this State was not represented in the artillery branch of the service, and the eager desire of the batteries to go to the front, Governor Tanner took energetic action to include the artillery in the first call, and was rewarded with suc-

cess by receiving instructions from the Secretary of War. April twenty ninth, authorizing him to furnish one six gun battery of light artillery, in addition to the seven regiments of infantry and one of cavalry as previously instructed.

In conformity with this authority battery A of Danville, Captain Philip Yeager, commanding, and equipped with modern breech-loading 3-2 inch guns, was ordered to report at Camp Tanner, April thirtieth, for the purpose of being mustered into the United States volunteer service. The battery arrived in camp that night.

On May first, Governor Tanner made an effort to have battery B, of Galesburg, included in the first call from this State, but the War Department declined to increase the quota from Illinois.

Equipping the volunteers with the necessary clothing and ordnance supplies was found to be a serious problem. Secretary of War, R. A. Alger requested the State to turn over to the general government, all of the uniforms in possession of the Illinois organizations, also the arms and equipment for the time being. General Reese, anxious to assist the government in every manner possible, at once entered the market for campaign hats, leggins, shoes and ponchos, and as rapidly as these articles could be obtained they were issued to the troops.

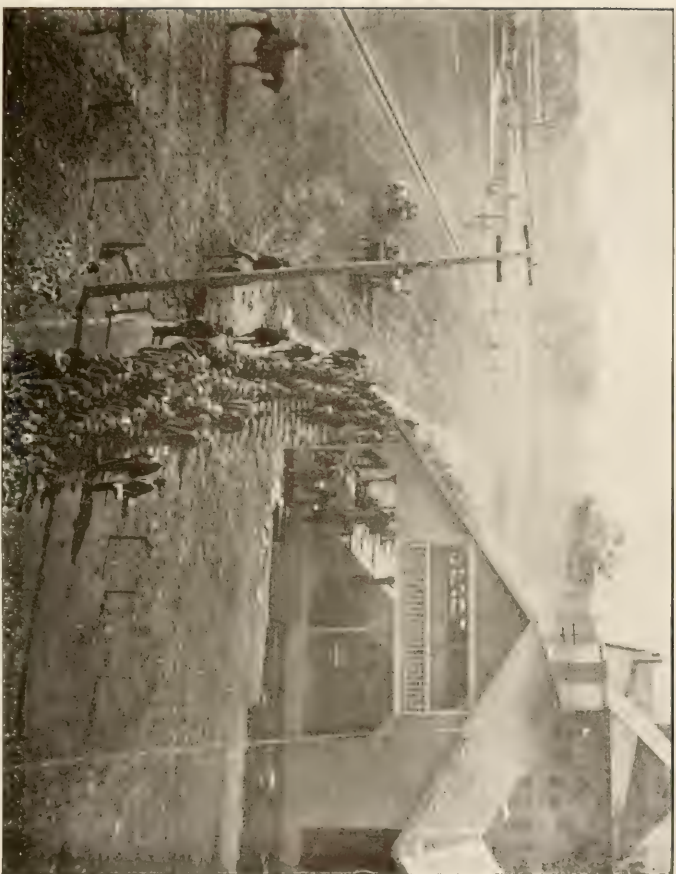
The United States, and every State in the Union, were buying clothing and equipments for their troops. Nearly the entire amount of these articles that were on hand had been purchased at the first intimation of war, and it was conceded to be almost an accomodation on the part of the manufacturer to listen to proposals of any kind. By sending agents to Chicago and St. Louis, the State secured enough hats, shoes, leggins, blankets and



ponchos, to not only relieve the most pressing needs of the troops, but to fit them out fairly well for practical field service. May ninth, Governor Tanner received a telegram from Secretary Alger in which he said, "we wish everything you can furnish. as the government is going to have hard work to equip its troops in time for service." This demonstrated that even the government could not purchase or manufacture equipments as rapidly as the necessity demanded.

Upon receipt of this advice, the State officials redoubled their efforts to secure such additional clothing and equipage as was not habitually issued to the National Guard, and were required for the volunteers, and all concerned labored night and day to bring the Illinois volunteers under National control at the earliest possible moment.

Thus it may be seen that while the rank and file of the volunteers were perspiring in the broiling sun, stepping on one anothers heels in a vain effort to be graceful in the evolutions of a soldier; preparing and eating their meals in the rain and mud and sometimes more than half inclined to rebel at the restrictions placed over them; the Commander-in-chief, and his staff, together with the large corps of assistants were receiving the brunt of the work. They felt that they were responsible to a great degree for the health and condition of the thousands of volunteers who had streamed in upon them even before the arrangements were completed as to what disposition should be made of them until such a time as they could be turned over to the government. They were in duty bound to care for those men and the numerous obstacles which they met and overcome represented no small volume of labor. They were hampered by the shortage in



The Sixth Ill., marching to church in a body at Camp Tanner.



supplies of all kinds and only by dint of energetic work with little or no rest were the men fed and clothed. That Illinois was the first State in the union to report its quota of volunteers as ready for field service was due to the tireless and continued efforts of the State officials to this end.

## CHAPTER V.

The regular routine of work was continued day after day and as the men grew more accustomed to their duties they found a certain amount of pleasure in performing them. It required but a short time to form many new acquaintances among the men of the various regiments; and the hours off duty were spent in the large buildings where the practical joker was much in evidence, and the rafters fairly shook with the continued laughter and merriment of the hilarious, fun loving boys. There was no lack of sport and from early morn until taps, Indian war dances accompanied by the regulation whoop, glove contests and amateur theatricals followed upon each other closely.

The entertainment which received the most attention and was put into more general practice, until every man was initiated was termed "hot-foot," or "cheese-malee." It consisted of running the gantlet between two long lines of young fellows with well developed muscles. Each man in the lines armed himself with a strong stick or canteen strap and as the victim gathered his energies and shot down the narrow lane he received a warning that was remembered for some time, and if he succeeded in escaping punishment from the upper end of the line he was given the full degree by the remaining ones, and as the instruments of torture were plied one after another

in rapid succession the candidate increased his momentum and shot by the last man with the speed of a race horse.

His first impulse was to sit down and think the matter over but he no sooner found a resting place than he concluded it would be more convenient to remain on his feet and for the first time since his arrival at camp he longed for the luxury of the old arm chair with its downy cushions and padded back. Very few escaped this treat as the men were considerate to a fault and partiality would not be tolerated. The good things were not for the few but were equally distributed to all. To struggle or protest was to eventually bring an extra portion to the friendless victim, and as misery loves company he added his mite to the working team and took his revenge on the hapless and helpless ones who soon came darting down the course.

At night the scene was an animating one. In the building with us was the Third regiment, in all nearly two thousand high spirited young fellows and it was impossible to keep them quiet. Promptly at ten o'clock the bugler of the Third would step out on the stair landing at the upper end of the building and blow taps, and as the men of his regiment snuffed the burning candles they cheered his efforts to the echo. Immediately afterward, the bugler of the Sixth would appear at the opposite landing and repeat the call for the benefit of the men of his regiment, and among the hurrahs of our boys the flickering flames of the candles in our quarters disappeared. This friendly rivalry between the buglers of the Third and Sixth and their supporters continued throughout our stay at Camp Tanner. For a few moments after taps, deep silence reigned throughout the building, then a voice from some far away corner would cry out "have a

good time and e-n-j-o-y-y yourself," then a perfect bedlam would break loose. A multitude of voices with one accord, joined in a chorus, most hideous and unearthly. Cat calls from the back yard fence, watch dogs, growling and barking on the front porch, hoot owls in the neighboring trees, the mooing of cows and bellowing of bulls in the barn yard lot, added to the caw caw, of the crow, the cry of the chicken hawk, the quack of the duck and the gentle cooing of the turtle dove, formed a combination that baffles description and nearly drove the officers frantic. In vain they would command silence, and taking a still hunt down the rows of reclining figures in an effort to locate the source of the pandemon they found every one quiet and to all appearances fast asleep. Returning to their sleeping quarters the officers would fall into a doze to be rudely awakened by a repetition of the noise. This was repeated until the boys grew weary of the sport and one after another they dropped asleep to dream of home and the treasures which they knew were stored away in the cellars.

The Young Mens Christian Association of Springfield, put up a large tent shortly after the arrival of the troops and regular services were held throughout the life of Camp Tanner. Writing material was furnished gratis, to those desiring it and the large tables were well occupied during the long evenings and leisure hours of the day. Good literature was never lacking and the kindness in general, shown us by the young men in charge demonstrated the fact that they were deeply in earnest in the work.

The second Sunday in camp was a repetition of the preceding Sabbath. The regiment attended church service in the race track amphitheatre at eleven o'clock in





Tossed in a blanket, or the ups and downs of a volunteer.



the morning. The service was led by Chaplin Morgan, of the Sixth. The customary afternoon practice march was taken in the morning. After church the men were given their liberty until six o'clock in the evening when they assembled for dress parade. Great boxes and barrels of delicacies had been received from homes of the soldiers the day previous and a day of feasting was theirs. From all directions the relatives and friends of the boys came in.

The boys of company E received a liberal share of the edibles and their visitors were numerous. They ate, drank, smoked and made merry, and for hours the relatives and friends from home were busily engaged answering questions. The visitors with well filled pockets, graciously feted the boys until the hour of departure arrived when they bid them good-bye and left them feeling lonely but happy.

Company I boys searched the crowds in vain for a familiar face, and ate hard tack and sowbelly with poor grace, washing it down with army coffee; a good substantial, one course dinner without trimmings of any kind. To them the hardtack was tougher and the meat fatter than ever before and they eyed their more fortunate comrades with ill concealed envy. It was a sorrowful day for them but their time was yet to come: they had no means of knowing it and they felt that they had been forgotten. They were not in want of anything in particular, the inner man was well supplied and clothing plenty, but among this cheerfulness, the evidence of which could be seen on every hand, a feeling of depression came over them which would not be shaken off.

Monday May ninth, the final physical examination was given Company E. The boys marched down town

to the State Capitol building in the morning, and after a long wait on the outside they were taken to the Senate Chamber and there, twenty men at a time were stripped of all clothing and taken before the examining board. This board consisted of Colonel Senn, Ass't Surgeon General of the U. S. A., Captain Birmingham also of the regular army, Major Anthony, Surgeon, and Captain Cole, Assistant Surgeon of the Sixth regiment. The Sterling boys came through the ordeal with flying colors, losing only two men, Corporal William Deem and private Lovier Feigley. Both were sorely dissatisfied, but the regulations could not be ignored and the only course open to them was to return home. Captain Lawrie recruited two volunteers from Chicago to fill the vacancy.

The following day, May tenth Company I was examined. Its members were taken to the quarters of the Fifth, and the examination was given them by the board of that regiment. It was composed of Major Milton R. Keeley, Surgeon of the Fifth, and one of the Ass't Surgeons of the same regiment. It was quite evident from the beginning that they were to receive a searching examination and when the last man had donned his clothing the list of rejected ones contained the names of twenty-four of the Morrison boys; among them were some of the oldest members of the company of State troops and this ripping up the back so weakened the company in point of numbers as to bring the matter of disbanding and reorganizing it, to serious consideration.

Captain Colebaugh, feeling that an injustice had been done the men who were rejected, brought the matter to the attention of Colonel Foster, commanding the Sixth regiment. After considering the problem the Colonel

authorized Major Anthony to give the rejected men a re-examination. Six of the twenty-four accepted the opportunity and every man went through. This appeared to be substantial evidence that they were given an extremely thorough going over at the hands of Major Keeley, either intentional or otherwise. With seven men rejected at the preliminary, and twenty-four at the final examination, left the company with but fifty-four of the original eighty-five. Another of the company, Brice McCune, thinking he would sooner get to the front, went over to the Third regiment and entered their ranks. Fifty-three men were all that could be mustered. The return of the six men who were accepted at the re-examination brought the number up to fifty-nine. There were plenty of extra men about camp awaiting just such an opportunity as this to enter the ranks and in a short time twenty-one recruits were selected and company I had a full complement of men.

Those of company I who were rejected at the preliminary examination were: Corporal Charles Weeks, privates William Morse, Firman McWhitemore, Timothy Bly, Frank Davis, Frank Judd and Orville Mitchell. Those rejected at the final were: Sergeant Ed Curtis, Corporal Orville Kaler, privates Henry Clark, Harry Morse, William Almanrode, George Hubbard, William Hubbard, Charles Magee, Theo Magee, Emerson Fellows, Otto Harrison, Alvin Burch, Walter Weeks, William Yarbrough, Henry Vandyke, George Colehour, Arthur Stinton and Harry Fisher. These men, with the rejected ones of company E, were furnished transportation and regretfully, they turned their faces homeward. Fortunately, the men who were recruited to fill the vacancies caused by the loss of these men were all fine

fellows and had the opportunity and time been given to investigate each individual, it is doubtful if a more desirable selection could have been made.

The weather continued wet and nasty. The camp grounds had become a sea of mud and the buildings were kept clean with difficulty. A day of sunshine was exceptional and the men were beginning to tire of their quarters. Many rumors floated about camp and we were constantly expecting something to occur which would result in our being mustered in and hurried to the front. We were rapidly being equipped with clothing but were short of arms, having only the few rifles which the companies had taken to camp from home, and a goodly portion of them had been condemned and taken up, as unfit for service.

There was very little sickness in camp. It was surprising too; the unfavorable condition of the weather and the inexperience of many of the men in taking proper care of themselves in such surroundings may well have been cause for much sickness. The examining surgeons evidently did their work thoroughly and the accepted men possessed excellent constitutions; otherwise the conditions would have been vastly different from those existing at the time.

The Fifth and Third regiments of infantry were mustered into United States service in the order named on the seventh day of May, and we anxiously awaited orders, hoping to follow them closely. The officers and men of the Fifth and Third were highly elated at their success in being the first of the Illinois troops to be mustered in, and delighted in calling the attention of the men of the remaining regiments to the fact, and they informed us that they would be at the front in a few days



E. J. WEAVER,  
2nd Lieut. Co. 1, Vol.





while in all probability we would not leave the State. In all events the best we could hope for would be garrison duty in some out of the way army post. The events which followed in the succeeding months proved the unreliability of these statements and the uncertainty surrounding a soldiers life.

The Sixth regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was mustered into the United States service, Wednesday, May eleventh, by Captain Cyrus S. Roberts, 17th U. S. Infantry, mustering officer. The regimental officers and non-commissioned staff were the first to take the oath and sign the muster roll. Company E of Sterling was the first and Company I of Morrison, the last to be sworn in, of the twelve companies which composed the Sixth regiment. Captain Roberts, accompanied by Colonel Foster and the commanding officer of the company took his position in front of the awaiting soldiers. As the name of each man was read from the muster in roll, he stepped forward a few paces, forming a new line. After this had been repeated until every man in the company had answered "here", Captain Roberts requested the men to take their caps in the left hand and raise the right while he administered the following oath:

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America; that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies whomsoever; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the rules and articles of war.

We were soldiers in fact as well as practice. This was the hour of the disbanding of the Illinois National

Guard, as company after company took the oath of allegiance to serve the government for two years unless sooner discharged. Colonel Foster spoke words of encouragement to the men and informed us that we were the *first* regiment of volunteers *ever* mustered into the government service from Illinois with twelve full companies.

The die was cast and come what would we were bound to the flag of our Union for two years or until the Spaniards were driven from the Island of Cuba and peace declared.

CHAPTER VI.

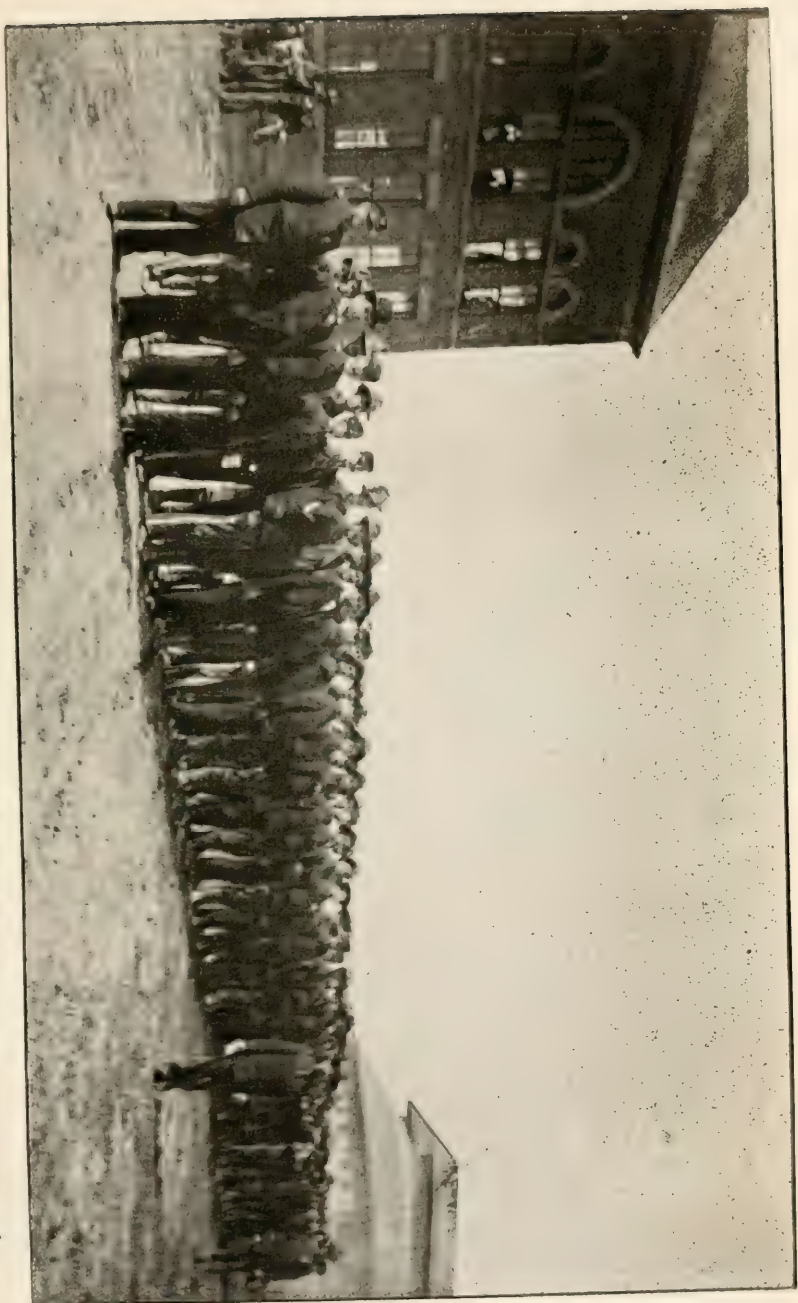
The following is a complete roster of companies E and I as they were mustered into the volunteer service: giving the residence of each man at the time of enlistment:

COMPANY E.

Captain,	William F. Lawrie,	Sterling.
1st Lieutenant,	Goodicil B. Dillon,	"
2nd Lieutenant,	Frank Wahl,	"
1st Sergeant,	Samuel H. Feigley,	"
Q. M. Sergeant,	Edward A. Nellen,	"
Sergeant,	John W. Cushman,	"
"	Joshua H. Wildasin,	"
"	Fred E. Wagley,	Rock Falls.
Corporal,	Charles F. Hoobler,	Sterling.
"	Romeo W. Baker,	"
"	Herbert R. Grimes,	"
"	Leslie C. Sheldon,	"
"	Martin L. Allpress,	Rock Falls.
"	Harry L. Hankerson,	Sterling.
Musician,	F. Roy Eshelman,	"
"	Lee D. Meyers,	"
Private,	Anderson, Charles	"
"	Alderfer, Philip	"
"	Aument, Frank H.	"
"	Byers, Wilson	"
"	Bailey, Frank C.	Rock Falls.
"	Bassett, Bert	Sterling.

Private	Bassett, Marcus P.	"
"	Bassett, Ed.	"
"	Bassett, Milton B.	Rock Falls.
"	Bushnell, Leo H.	Sterling.
"	Book, Enos	Emerson.
"	Bensinger, John E.	Sterling.
"	Burr, James S.	"
"	Berlin, Clark	"
"	Buckley, Bernhard J.	"
"	Blair, Frank	"
"	Burkhart, Will L.	Chicago.
"	Cary, John G.	Sterling.
"	Cary, Elroy B.	"
"	Coryell, Frank H.	Rock Falls.
"	Cunningham, Claire	Sterling.
"	Clark, Lyman P.	"
"	Compton, Clare	"
"	Deem, Arthur E.	"
"	Deyoe, Devillo B.	Rock Falls.
"	Dillon, Reese J.	Sterling.
"	Eager, Wallace L.	Rock Falls.
"	Eisele, William	"
"	Flock, William F.	Sterling.
"	Goodman, Harry C.	"
"	Hess, Fred R.	"
"	Higby, Leonard C.	"
"	Heathcoate, William	"
"	Hansen, Gus	Rock Falls.
"	Hall, Guy G.	"
"	Havens, George F.	Sterling.
"	Johnson, Charles S.	"
"	Johnson, Charles A.	"
"	Johnson, Bert	"
"	Kahl, Ernest	Rock Falls.
"	Lingel, William J.	Sterling.
"	Lund, William C.	"
"	Lineberry, John	"
"	Lindsley, Calvin	Rock Falls.
"	Little, Harry	Sterling.
"	Moore, Louis E.	Rock Falls.
"	Morrison, Alfred G.	"
"	McNeil, Robert B.	"
"	Mackey, Fred W.	Sterling.

Co. E lined up, preparatory to taking the oath. Major Anthony on extreme left, Capt. Lawrie in foreground.







Private	Merricks, Edward	Rock Falls.
"	Pigg, Frank	Sterling.
"	Round, George	"
"	Reifsnnyder, William	"
"	Ranger, Charles E.	"
"	Rhodemyer, Herman	Rock Falls.
"	Rodgers, Guy Alden	Chicago.
"	Smith, Frank W.	Sterling.
"	Sheldon, John	"
"	Struckman, William C.	"
"	Street, Albert L.	"
"	Sneed, Fred W.	"
"	Slade, George	"
"	Strock, John Franklin	"
"	Triggs, Alpheus W.	"
"	Wright, Fred W.	Rock Falls.
"	Winters, Carl	"
"	Wahl, Albert A.	Sterling.
"	Wilkinson, Lee D.	"

Date of enrollment, April twenty sixth, for those who joined the company for duty previous to its departure from Sterling. Privates Burkhart and Rodgers were recruited at Springfield and enrolled May fourteenth. Hospital Steward Kline secured an excellent photograph of company E as the boys lined up awaiting to be mustered in.

COMPANY I.

Captain,	Wm. F. Colebaugh,	Morrison.
1st Lieutenant,	Edward C. Lawton,	"
2nd Lieutenant,	Ernest J. Weaver,	"
1st Sergeant,	David E. Crouch,	Prairieville.
Q. M. Sergeant,	Andrew F. Mathews,	Morrison.
Sergeant,	Harry A. Weaver,	"
"	Jacob L. Rockey,	"
Corporal,	Harry H. Rockey,	"
"	Andrew J. Osborne, Jr.,	Erie.
Musician,	Ora M. Colebaugh,	Morrison.
"	Robert E. Davis,	"

Private,	Adams, Henry W.	Prophetstown.
"	Andrews, James	Erie.
"	Berry, Charles	Morrison.
"	Berry, Harrison S	"
"	Boyer, William C.	"
"	Baird, John W.	"
"	Brubaker, John S.	"
"	Brearton, Fred W.	"
"	Birley, Charles H.	Lyndon.
"	Burr, Amos A.	Thompson.
"	Bunzey, Rufus S	Morrison.
"	Black, Evan	"
"	Baker, John	Springfield.
"	Colp, George W.	Prophetstown.
"	Carlton, Frank E.	"
"	Corbin, John	Morrison.
"	Cullum, Paul	Neoga.
"	Dahlstrom, William	Prophetstown.
"	Donavan, David A.	Decatur.
"	Everhart, George	Morrison.
"	Fenton, William	Erie.
"	Humphrey, Ralph D.	Morrison.
"	Hyatt, Charles E.	"
"	Hawse, George B.	"
"	Heath, Lafayette S.	Prophetstown.
"	Hartless, Ernest T.	Aurora.
"	Johnson, Fred O.	Morrison.
"	Judd, Charles	"
"	Jenks, Edwin	Fenton.
"	Kingrey, Frank	Mendota.
"	Kellett, Charles T.	Prophetstown.
"	Koepke, Bernhard	Amboy.
"	Kirk, Alonzo L	Decatur.
"	Leatherwood, Scott	Spring Hill.
"	Littell, John C.	Prophetstown.
"	Lay, Roy	Clyde.
"	Lee, Edward Saxon	Quincy.
"	Lueck, William H.	"
"	Lepper, Edward	"
"	Morrison, John	Morrison.
"	Middleton, Leonard C.	Prophetstown.
"	Miller, Frank	Erie.
"	McKenzie, Richmond	Prophetstown.

Private	May, Chester N.	Decatur.
"	Marold Charles M.	Quincy.
"	Philleo, Arthur	Erie.
"	Peters, George	"
"	Pense, Clayton A.	Prophetstown.
"	Polson, August	Geneseo.
"	Patterson, Henry	Fowler.
"	Phillips, Thomas	Quincy.
"	Reynolds, John	Lyndon.
"	Roderich, John	Aurora.
"	Sherwood, Asa	Morrison.
"	Scanlan, Oliver	Fenton.
"	Stanley, Neal	Prophetstown.
"	Seaton, T. Lyle	Round Grove
"	Savage, Orin J.	Lyndon.
"	Smith, Verne M.	Albany.
"	Shear, Thomas R.	Morrison.
"	Stakelbeck, Otto	Quincy.
"	Schanz, William	Quincy.
"	Schachtsiek, Fred	"
"	Thompson, Robert C.	Morrison.
"	Turner, Lewis C.	Neoga.
"	Thomas, Harry	Geneseo.
"	Whitemore, William	Fenton.
"	Wilcox, Albert	Erie.
"	Willecox, Hilton	"
"	Wilkins, Ross C.	Lyndon.
"	Wood, Mark	Moline.
"	Yopst, Birt O.	Albany.

Date of enrollment. April twenty-sixth, for those who joined the company previous to its departure from Morrison. Privates Baker, Cullum, Donovan, Hartless, Koepke, Kirk, Lee, Lueck, Lepper, May, Marold, Patterson, Polson, Phillips, Roderich, Stakelbeck, Schanz, Schachtsiek, Turner, Thomas and Wood were recruited at Springfield, and enrolled May eleventh.

Very soon after company I was mustered in, Ernest Weaver, for private reasons, tendered his resignation as 2nd Lieutenant. Had this occurred before the

muster in, and while the troops were yet in the service of the State, the vacancy would have been filled by the election of a member of this company; but as they were sworn in and governed by the regulations of the U. S. Army, his successor came through appointment. Captain Ben Eick, of Sterling, Inspector of Rifle Practice, of the Sixth Ill. N. G. for several years, received the appointment. In the organization of the volunteer regiments there were no Inspectors of Rifle Practice on the staff, and as Captain Eick was anxious to remain with the regiment he accepted the commission. Colonel Foster immediately appointed him Regimental Ordnance Officer and he was on detached duty throughout our volunteer service. Company I was practically without a 2nd Lieutenant during its entire service, as the duties connected with the office of Ordnance Officer kept Lieutenant Eick away from the company.

As the position of Battalion Quartermaster Sergeant also became void in the volunteer organizations, Walter Burritt of Morrison, who held this rank in the first battalion, accompanied Lieutenant Weaver home.

Whiteside county was well represented in the Field, Staff and Non-commissioned Staff of the Sixth regiment, as will be observed in the roster which follows:

Colonel,	D. Jack Foster,	Chicago.
Lieut. Colonel,	Edward Kittilsen,	Moline.
Major,	Will T. Channon,	Rock Island.
"	David E. Clark,	Monmouth.
"	William E. Baldwin,	Dixon.
Reg. Adjutant,	John J. Cairns,	Chicago.
Surgeon Major,	Frank Anthony,	Sterling.
Ass't Surgeon,	Lorenzo S. Cole,	Monmouth.
"	Charles A. Robbins,	Dixon.
Chapiin,	Alanson R. Morgan	Cuba, Ill.



Capt Roberts, Mustering Officer, administering the oath to the Field and Staff  
Officers of the Sixth Ill Col Foster on the left.



Reg. Q. Master.	Frank Barber,	Chicago.
1st. Lt. Bat. Adjt.,	L. R. Gaylord,	Moline.
"	James W. Clendenin,	Monmouth.
"	Joseph H. Showalter,	LaMoille.
Sergeant Major,	Edwin S. Johnson,	Sterling.
Q. M. Sergeant,	Rudolphus Hicks,	Galena.
Chief Musician,	John C. Prestine,	Sterling.
Prin.	Fred W. Forbes,	"
"	Thomas H. Flynn,	Rock Island.
Hosp Steward,	John L. Kline,	Milledgeville.
"	Howard N. Geyer,	Rock Falls.
"	Fred N. Brown,	Sterling.



## CHAPTER VII.

The members of company I were pleasantly surprised on the Friday succeeding our muster in, to see Judge Ramsay, Sheriff Fuller, L. T. Stocking and J. N. Baird put in an appearance. They were kept very busy until mess call at noon answering questions relating to friends at home. Getting news of home from such a source had a pleasing effect on us all, and as we formed for mess we were all feeling very light-hearted. Our visitors took dinner with us in regular army style, eating hard-tack and beef from tin plates and apparently enjoyed their first meal in camp. Judge Ramsay took a snap shot at us as we were eating and another after dinner when we had a better opportunity to form. After dinner the practice march had to be gone over again, this left our visitors to their own amusement until the time when the company returned.

It was soon discovered there was something out of the ordinary going on about us, and Capt. Colebaugh informed us we would be expected to be in our quarters ready to fall in line at 6:30 p. m.

All were relieved from duty of any sort, by arrangements made with Colonel Foster. At last the secret leaked out, and we began to realize the mission of those from home. At 6:30 all were in line and we

were marched to the entrance gate and there found three street cars in readiness and waiting for us, which had been chartered for the occasion. We were taken up town and ordered out of the cars in front of the "Leland," the leading hotel in the city, and were given twenty minutes in which to stroll around and prepare for the feast awaiting us.

At 7:30 we were again formed in line and marched direct to the spacious dining hall and seated. Here we also found Major Channon, Major Anthony, Chaplain Morgan, Capt. Lawrie of Co. E, and Lieut. Eick, all of the 6th, Col. Foster being unable to attend on account of very pressing business.

After blessings had been asked by Chaplain Morgan the feast began, course after course being served. We ate and ate, and yet it came; we had colored waiters standing about us ready to "jump" at the first signal. Word was sent down the line to "*take your time*," "*eat all you like*," and "*enjoy yourselves*." And maybe we did not. It was the first time in the experience of many of us where every time a knife, fork or spoon was taken from our mouths it was taken away to be replaced by another; but bear in mind we were dining at one of the finest hotels in this part of the State; remember, we were guests of a people who knew how to entertain, and everything served us was the best. Cigars were passed around by a big black fellow; they were lighted, windows and transoms were opened, and we settled down to enjoy a good smoke.

L. T. Stocking, speaking in behalf of the committee, then explained to us the circumstances. He told us how the citizens had been planning to send something to the boys, but they finally hit upon this plan of selecting

a committee to represent them, send them down and give us a banquet. He stated the people at home had not forgotten us, that they were with us from first to last, that every man was remembered, and they had taken this method to express their appreciation. After a few appropriate remarks he called on Major Channon, Major Anthony, Chaplain Morgan and Captains Colebaugh, Lawrie and Lieut. Eick, each one of whom responded and expressed his satisfaction and pleasure at being with us on this occasion. Chaplain Morgan gave us a very impressive talk. He told us that in our hands (referring to Illinois volunteers) rested the honor of a State which had given us such men as Grant, and Logan, whose presence on the battlefield was worth more than ten thousand troops; Oglesby, and last but not least that soldier-statesman who gave up his life for his flag and his country, that martyred patriot, Abraham Lincoln. He cautioned us to bear in mind the fact that we represented the grandest State in the union: he cautioned us to remember we had friends and loved ones at home who followed our every movement, therefore we should watch ourselves and return to our friends and homes as pure as when we left them. He continued at some length and made a very warm place for himself in the hearts of us all.

Judge Ramsay then responded in behalf of the people whom the committee represented, and as is his custom-he more than pleased us. Every one who reads these lines know only too well how able a speaker the Judge is, and it is sufficient to say that he spoke with his usual eloquence. This was followed by breaking up of the party, and when we were in line on the outside three rousing cheers were given with a will for the representatives and the represented. Our visitors bade us all good-



Col. "Jack" Foster and his field headquarters in Porto Rico.



by, and we gave each a parting hand-shake.

We found, as before, cars awaiting to take us back to camp, and we were soon resting in our quarters. Did we think we had been forgotten? Hardly so. The boys received new encouragement from this generous and thoughtful act of our friends at home, and we then and there decided that should it occur that we should serve our full enlistment term of two years, and the opportunity came and we were called upon to face the enemy in battle, we would strain every nerve, make every effort possible, to prove to the friends at home that they had not misplaced their confidence; that in placing in our hands the integrity of a portion of Old Whiteside and Old Glory, which has been so nobly protected in trials of this same nature before by our fathers and forefathers, they had made no mistake; that *"in camp, on the march, or in conflict,"* we would do with all our might that which should be required or asked of us.

Looking backward and recalling the many incidents in our short service, this occasion will be remembered as one of the most pleasant in the soldier life of company I.

Company E was often remembered by the people of Sterling and Rock Falls. Hardly a day passed that did not bring something from home, and it was always of the best and plenty of it. The effect of this treatment was to inspire the boys with a determination to so govern themselves as to be a credit to their people and to Illinois.

The following non-commissioned officers for company I were appointed by Captain Colebaugh: Corporals Rockey and Osborne to be Sergeants; Privates Harrison Berry, Seaton, Pense, Black, Adams and Leatherwood to be Corporals.

The whole of the Sixth regiment was vaccinated the

day following its muster in. The boys nursed sore arms for a few days and protected the tender spots by pinning placards on their sleeves bearing inscriptions such as "touch not," "keep off the grass," "beware" and "vaccinated."

The Erie people remembered their boys with several large boxes of good things. Sunday as we formed for mess at the noon hour, down the line came one after another of the Erie boys with chicken, cake, jelly and fruit. They fed us until we could eat no more. Every one was remembered, all ate until satisfied, and then a box of cigars was fished out of the box and sent around.

This dinner made a warm spot in our hearts for the good people of Erie. The shortest and surest route to a soldier's heart is by way of his stomach. Allow him to exist on army rations for a week and then place a good, old fashioned dinner before him and you have sealed an everlasting friendship with him.

One evening, just before dusk, the story was circulated through camp to the effect that a sergeant of one of our neighboring companies, who had been accepted by the surgeons, absolutely refused to enlist. A crowd composed of the men of the regiment congregated and proposed to drum the man who had showed the "yellow" out of camp. The threat was carried out and he was roughly handled by his infuriated comrades. The timely arrival of a guard from post headquarters scattered the men, but for this the fellow would have suffered severely. For a time the unsoldierly actions of the men created considerable excitement in camp.

Comrades Prestine and Forbes were untiring in their efforts to organize a band. It was a difficult matter to secure men who were good musicians to enter the



service and accept the pay of a private. There were a number of excellent band men in the regiment but more were needed and they had no instruments. Chief Musician Prestine suggested that each of the twelve towns represented by a company in the regiment, start the work of raising a fund for the purpose of maintaining a first class band. This suggestion was acted on by the people at home and a considerable sum realized. This was the foundation of the Sixth Regiment Volunteer Band and it was built up and improved as rapidly as circumstances would permit, and eventually proved to be one of the best and strongest bands in the volunteer service. The men detailed to the band from company I were: John Corbin, John Morrison and John Baird, commonly referred to as "The Three Johns."

On May twelfth, the Sixth regiment marched out to Lincolns monument and also paid a visit to the familiar grounds of Camp Lincoln. They held dress parade and passed in review before returning to quarters. Major Channon was in command of the regiment, Captain Lawrie acting Major of the first battalion, Lieut. Wahl acting as battalion adjutant. Company E was placed under command of Lieut. Dillon, and Sergeant Cushman was acting regimental sergeant-major.

Upon the first inspection of arms, company E was found to be in the possession of ten rifles in excess of the number with which they arrived in camp. No one appeared to know where the extra guns came from, but for years it had been customary for the individual members of this company to see to it that supplies of every description were plenty and so far they were successful; but there was a time coming when they, with all of their ingenuity in foraging would be sadly in need of the necessi-

ties of life and they would be powerless to aid themselves.

Under the first call of the President of the United States for volunteer troops from the various states, the regiments from Illinois were mustered into the United States service in the following order:

- (1) Fifth Infantry, Ill. N. G., May 7th, 1898.
- (2) Third Infantry, Ill. N. G., May 7th, 1898.  
(10:30 p. m.)
- (3) Sixth Infantry, Ill. N. G., May 11th, 1898.
- (4) Battery A, Ill. N. G., May 12th, 1898.
- (5) First Infantry, Ill. N. G., May 13th, 1898.
- (6) Second Infantry, Ill. N. G., May 16th, 1898.
- (7) Seventh Infantry, Ill. N. G., May 18th, 1898.
- (8) Fourth Infantry, Ill. N. G., May 20th, 1898.
- (9) First Cavalry, Ill. N. G., May 21st, 1898.

The commissions of the officers were made to correspond with these dates, except in the case of the Third Infantry, where the commissions of the field and staff were dated May 8th, for the reason that these officers were mustered in after the business hours of the 7th and near the first hours of the 8th, and to prevent any future dispute as to the seniority of the commanding officer, or the priority of muster in.

The first order to move an Illinois regiment was received on May 13th, Colonel Culver, commanding the Fifth Infantry received orders direct from the War Department, to proceed at once, with his regiment to Camp George H. Thomas, Chickamauga National Park, Georgia. An hour later, Colonel Fred Bennitt, commanding the Third Infantry, received telegraphic instructions from Washington to proceed to Camp Thomas.

Both regiments immediately broke camp and made hurried preparations to leave Camp Tanner. Joy was



LIEUT. COL. EDWARD KITTILSEN,  
Sixth Infantry,



depicted on the countenances of the men of these two regiments as they hustled about. The Fifth boarded the cars the morning of the fourteenth. The Third following it a few hours later.

Monday May 16th, Colonel Foster received orders to prepare his regiment for its immediate departure for Camp Russell A. Alger, near Falls Church, Va. Cheer after cheer rent the air as the joyful news passed from mouth to mouth. We had heard so many conflicting rumors about our destination that it was quite a relief to at last receive definite and final instructions.

Arrangements for transportation over the Wabash railway were made as soon as possible, but it was the afternoon of the day following that we broke camp.

The closing hours at Camp Tanner were busy ones for the officers and men alike; writing letters home occupied the fleeting moments of many of them for a time. Then there was the packing up and discarding of numerous articles that had accumulated in our brief but interesting stay at Camp Tanner. Clothing was hurried to us and by noon Tuesday the men were fairly well equipped excepting arms. These were issued to us after breaking camp and just previous to boarding the cars.

## CHAPTER VIII.

We boarded the cars at 4:30 p. m., Tuesday, May 17th. We were very pleasantly surprised to note that the cars arranged for were all Wagner sleepers. By accident one of the cars assigned to Co. I was the "Maine." The boys in this car as a rule were very proud of it, and it attracted a great deal of attention along the route and a great many comments were made in regard to it, a few of the superstitious ones telling us we would never reach our destination in this car, but we arrived safely nevertheless.

A porter had been sent out with each car. Toilet articles were furnished, and at about 8:30 in the evening the porter arranged the berths,—two men in the lower and one in the upper. This was giving us advantages of which we had never dreamed, and you may be sure the boys were not long in turning in. The sight of snow-white bedding, feather pillows and spring mattresses caused us to think of home, and its comforts.

A train had been made up for each battalion, making three sections of thirteen or fourteen coaches each, the 1st battalion, Companies E, I, A and F, including regimental officers car, being on the 1st section. It was 11:45 p. m. before we steamed away from our old camp and nearly every one was asleep.

The boys were astir quite early the following morning, as all had settled their minds on missing nothing of interest while enroute. We found we had crossed the border line and entered Indiana about four o'clock a. m. We were taking a north-easterly course, passing through LaFayette, Logansport, Peru and Ft. Wayne.

Over three weeks of camp life had placed us behind. When we entered Springfield very little had been accomplished in the way of getting in crops. On getting out on our trip we found all had changed; small grain of all kinds had a good start in several places, everything was green, all around was beautiful and very pleasant.

We were surprised to see so many log cabins and worm fences. A great many of the buildings were new. The primitive style of building yet clings to these people. As a rule the section of Indiana through which we passed was very poor and stony. The cities were excellent, but the country surrounding them looked very desolate. At Peru we found oil wells in operation and the towers could be seen as far as the eye could reach. Entering Ohio at 12:15 p. m. we found the same condition prevailing here as in Indiana. Arrived at Defiance Junction at two o'clock; this is a town with a population of about 10,000. They had turned out in large numbers to greet us. We were told it was the largest crowd congregated in the town for some time. Veterans of the civil war were numerous, a number of them having been members of Illinois regiments. We were treated very kindly.

Taking the Baltimore and Ohio railway here we passed in a south-eastern direction through Fostoria, Newark and Cambridge. At Bellaire, just before crossing the Ohio river, our train was divided into two sections to prepare for crossing the mountains.



The commissioned officers of each company had been requested to remain with the Colonel and his staff in the rear coach. Not having been notified of the dividing of our train, this left the first section, comprised of Co's E and I without an officer. This occurred about one o'clock in the morning. Col. Foster placed Capt. Colebaugh in charge of the first section. This was very easy to do but not so easy for the captain to reach his post of duty as we were some miles ahead of them and going right along. Our train was telegraphed to wait, and after a fifty mile run was caught near Bellton, West Virginia, Capt. Colebaugh taking a half mile sprint between trains.

He had been instructed to keep the boys in their cars and no one was allowed off the train when stops were made. This had been the order from the starting point, and the boys began to feel the effects of being cooped up in such close quarters. But it proved Col. Foster thoroughly understood what to do under the circumstances, as the section following us, bearing the 3rd battalion, allowed their men to get out at Alexandria, Va., and the consequence was one hundred and fifty of them could not be found when the train pulled out and they were left behind. They were fortunate in the fact of another section following them, which they boarded; only for this they would have been placed in an unenviable position as no one seemed to know whether they missed the train by accident or design.

We were soon among the mountains of West Virginia, and to those of us who had seen nothing but a few hills in our native State it was grand. The road-bed being about half way up the mountain side and in most places having been blasted from solid rock, below us we could see tiny villages and small streams. Railroads



MAJOR FRANK ANTHONY, Surgeon Sixth Inf.



were also in these valleys: they with their engines and trains appeared to us as toys.

Looking up on the opposite side in some places the mountain side was nearly perpendicular with great overhanging rocks which looked as though they were ready to topple upon us at any moment. Small streams came dashing down, the water being as clear as crystal. We crossed innumerable streams, all rushing along at a terrific pace. We passed through a number of tunnels, the longest one being about one and one-half miles in length. It was so dark it was thick, and the smoke crept in around doors and windows until it became stifling.

Once in a great while we would see small farms on the mountain side with men at work on them. We wondered a great deal how they could do anything on those side hills until we learned they were all built right or left-sided according to the side of the mountain on which they were born and raised. A man living on the left side could not work on the other side, and vice versa; one leg being considerably shorter than the other and built accordingly. They have what is called side hill pants with one short leg. We had often heard of them but never knew to what usage they were put until explained to us by a friendly train man.

Apparently these people knew nothing of our coming, as we went spinning along we would see a man or woman at work near the house who would look up and catch a glimpse of a flag and the brass buttons, then they would run into the house and out would come a whole village, who would stare at us until we were out of sight.

Negroes were becoming more numerous, some villages being composed entirely of them. A great many

of the old time farm houses still stand. They are low and rambling, with verandas nearly surrounding them. They are very picturesque.

We were held some time at Grafton to allow the second section to come up. We had the car of provisions but the Quartermaster was on the rear train and we could get nothing to eat until he arrived. We were delayed some time here. The second section passed us in order to have Col. Foster ahead to make necessary arrangements when we arrived at our destination.

Soon after leaving Grafton we crossed into Maryland, going almost directly east to Cumberland. About twenty miles above Cumberland we struck the Potomac river, following along its banks to Harper's Ferry. Between Cumberland and Harper's Ferry we skirted another range of mountains.

On this division we took a twenty mile ride down a very steep grade; brakes were all set and yet we went down with a rush and roar around curves and over bridges. At one moment the coaches appeared to be almost over, the next they would go back with a lurch and on over to the other side. We arrived at Harper's Ferry at 10:00 a. m., Thursday, May 19th.

We were given only ten minutes here, and then must stay on our cars, so it was impossible to learn much in regard to this old historic place. One of the most beautiful scenes on the whole trip was here. To the east, and just in front of our engine as we stopped, was a great bare cliff, the largest one seen; about its center was a black hole, the mouth of the tunnel through which the B. & O. railway runs direct to Washington. On either side of us as we stood on the bridge which crosses the Potomac, could be seen prominent cliffs on which

were perched summer hotels and resorts of all sorts.

We were switched on to a branch of the B. & O. at Harper's Ferry and taken southwest along the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains to Strasburg, Va., a distance of fifty-three miles. In this section of Virginia the lay of the land made us think of home. The soil is of a thick red clay and we were informed produced excellent crops.

Leaving Strasburg about four o'clock in the afternoon on the Southern railway we crossed the Blue Ridge mountains, going nearly east to Manassas. As we were entering this place we saw a large monument near the railway which the trainmen said marked the spot where soldiers who were slain in the battle of Bull Run were buried. The location of the battle-field proper lies about three miles to the north of Manassas. We took a north-easterly course from here to Alexandria, on the Potomac, about ten miles southwest of Washington. Here our train which had been divided at the Ohio river, was once more coupled together and we were pulled out to Dunn Loring, which lies almost directly west of the Capitol about twelve miles, thus taking a two hundred mile ride to cover a distance of fifty miles. We afterward learned that this side trip was caused by the size of the Wagner sleepers, they were too large to pass through the great tunnel at Harpers Ferry.

We arrived at Dunn Loring about nine thirty, p. m., May nineteenth, and lay in the cars all night, disembarked in the morning and remained there until two o'clock in the afternoon awaiting the arrival of the remainder of the regiment. Captain Lawrie visited Camp Alger in the morning, for the purpose of selecting a location for our regiment to establish a permanent camping ground.

The delayed sections of our train bearing the second and third battalions arrived shortly after noon and we formed and marched out to camp, a distance of about three miles; it was very hot and the roads were dusty. A number of the boys fell out along the line of march, and some of them were taken to the hospital where they remained several days.

We immediately set to work getting our camp outfits together and putting up tents and had barely completed the task when it began to rain.





MAJOR WM. T. CHANNON,  
Sixth Infantry.



## CHAPTER IX.

Camp Russell A. Alger was located eight miles south and west of Washington, D. C. The camp grounds contained about six hundred acres, and bordered on a large tract of timber land. A small stream coursed through the edge of the woods and was practically the boundary line of the camp grounds. Many stirring incidents occurred in and about this neighborhood during the civil war, and the old residents entertained us by relating tales of those eventful days.

When we arrived in camp we found little or no preparations had been made to receive us, although several days had elapsed since the War Department had ordered the regiment to this camp. Very little if any complaints were made by the men, yet it did appear to us that the National government was less energetic in the matter of taking proper care of its troops than was the state of Illinois.

We were not long in determining that the evil lay not so much with any one person in particular, but was caused by the red tape process which we met with. This obstacle, or at least it appeared as such to the volunteers, confronted us at every turn throughout our service. It was undoubtedly a necessity and will always remain so in the handling of large bodies of troops, but

it caused no end of inconveniences for us and we were slow to become accustomed to its tedious methods.

Our rations were short and the water was bad and of poor quality. These conditions existed but a short time and when the work of supplying the troops had followed its channel and terminated with us we immediately felt its effects and were well fed from that time on.

General E. B. Williston was in command of the camp for a short time but was succeeded on May 24th by Major General William M. Graham. The troops at Camp Alger were designated as the Second Army Corps.

The Sixth Massachusetts, Eighth Ohio and Sixth Illinois infantry regiments formed the Second Brigade. The First District of Columbia Infantry broke camp and marched out the day of our arrival; they had been ordered to Camp Thomas. Troops were arriving almost hourly and soon numbered ten thousand. Among them were the Sixth, Eighth, Twelfth and Thirteenth Pennsylvania; the Seventh, Eighth and Seventeenth regiments and one battalion of colored troops from Ohio; the First New Jersey; Sixty-Fifth New York; Sixth Massachusetts and Sixth Illinois Infantry. Later an infantry regiment from Missouri, and one from Kansas came in, with a squadron of Cavalry from New York and then the Seventh Illinois. By the time these troops had all pitched their tents Camp Alger presented a lively scene; a city of tents had risen as if from the earth, stretching away to the left until lost in the distant woods which at intervals broke into the camp grounds.

A great many of the troops were without uniforms and few had received arms. The New Jersey regiment was equipped throughout by the State; the Sixty-Fifth

New York made a decidedly strange appearance as every man wore sergeant's stripes on his trousers, and they were jokingly referred to as the regiment of sergeants. One company in this regiment was composed of and officered entirely by negroes, and it was admitted by the other men of the regiment that this company was by far the best drilled in the regiment.

Private Louis Bloomsoc of company A from Rock Island died of an acute attack of typhoid fever during the night of our first day in camp. The next afternoon the last tribute was paid to the dead soldier. Chaplain I. N. Keefer, of the Eighth Ohio, in the absence of Chaplain Morgan, conducted the simple funeral service of the army ritual.

Standing out in the company street, he led the boys as they sang "Nearer My God to Thee," then followed the reading of the XCII psalm; the bugle corps sounded "taps" and then the usual escort and the pall-bearers, chosen from among his comrades of company A, followed by the entire company, carried the body to Falls Church, from which place the remains were sent to his home for interment.

Such was the death and funeral rites of the first volunteer soldier of the Sixth Illinois who forfeited his life while serving the flag. In the few short weeks of his soldier life he had won no laurels for deeds of gallantry; no glorious achievements were his, yet he died an American soldier, serving his flag and his country. No higher tribute than this can be paid a citizen of this Republic living or dead. He had given his all, following the Stars and Stripes, in a cause of justice and humanity; giving his aid to bring to an unhappy people that of which they had had dreams for

years but as yet had never realized, but he as an American citizen knew its full value and loved better than life itself; that for which Old Glory has ever proudly waved in defence and stands as an unquestionable emblem, *sweet liberty*. One more name had been added to the already long roll of honor of dead American soldiers and sailors whose lives had been sacrificed on the altar of their country.

The day following we received the sad tidings of the death of Lieutenant Cole of Monmouth, Ass't Surgeon of our regiment. He died of pneumonia at Hope Hospital, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, May twenty-second. His illness was contracted at Camp Tanner. He started for Camp Alger with the regiment, but his condition grew steadily worse and when Ft. Wayne was reached Colonel Foster ordered him removed to the hospital. He lingered along, hovering between life and death but a few days, then he too forfeited his life. He breathed his last serving the flag he loved. The sweet notes of the bugle call coming soft and low from an unknown world had sounded "taps," and his life-light which had been burning so brightly was snuffed, and he was mustered out.

There was but little sickness as yet in the regiment. Some few of the men were slightly indisposed having contracted hard colds while at Camp Tanner and aggravated by the long journey to Camp Alger. Rushing the men into an unprepared camp had not bettered their condition and three privates, one from company M, one from company K and one from company L were sent to Fort Myer Hospital the second day in camp. This action was considered necessary as their condition became alarming and Major Anthony felt unwilling to assume

the responsibility of nursing these men back to health with the limited resources at hand at the time.

Among the first visitors at camp after the arrival of the Illinois troops was Mrs. Electa E. Smith of Washington, formerly post-mistress of Sterling. From the first hour of her presence in camp she took a deep interest in our boys and more especially the boys of company E. It was she who found the soldiers lying in the hospital without cots or bedding of any description. She lost no time in calling the attention of the Illinois Senators to the condition of affairs and urged them to bring their influence to bear on the War Department to provide better accommodations for the Illinois boys.

Senator Cullom paid a visit to our quarters and inspected the regimental hospital and hurried to Washington, where he had an interview with the Secretary of War, who promised that everything possible would be done for the comfort of the men. Senators Cullom and Mason, and Representatives Hitt and Marsh were on the ground several times and labored to provide the Illinois troops with everything possible. The wives of these gentlemen were also frequent callers, and always came laden with articles and delicacies for the hospital patients.

Cots and mattresses were soon forthcoming and Major Anthony and his assistants secured a supply of drugs and medicines. The regimental hospital became thoroughly equipped for the time being, and the unfortunate soldiers who fell victims to disease were given the best of treatment.

Mrs. Smith gave the boys of company E a royal spread the first Sunday in camp. Tables and table linens were conspicuous by their absence, but the eat-



ables were abundant and made up of everything. The dinner was served in an informal style but she tried hard to console the boys for the sickness and death of their comrades by ministering to the inner man. Her influence was continually brought to bear on the Washington officials to provide well for the men, and Colonel Foster and Major Anthony expressed the sentiments of the men of the regiment in a few well chosen words. She was looked upon as the mother of the regiment. Certain it was, she was our good angel, ministering to the wants of the sick and speaking words of encouragement and cheer to everyone.

It was very amusing to walk about among the eastern regiments quarters and hear the remarks of their members regarding the boys from Illinois. We were looked upon as cow-boys, rough riders and reckless shooters. We were asked a great many times about cow-boy life, and bear hunting, and if the Indians were all peaceful at home. As we strolled about we overheard such remarks as; "Those fellows are from Illinois, away out west, nice fellows but h—l when they get started; they would just as soon shoot as not, and we had better look out for them.

We were a little non-plussed at first to know whether they really thought as they spoke, but we soon saw they were in earnest and we did everything possible to mislead them and keep them of the opinion that we were really bad men. Company G of Dixon gave an exhibition of an Indian war dance at intervals. Wrapped in red blankets, they would hop around, whoop and yell, beat the drums and hold a pow-wow. This farce never failed to draw a large crowd of interested spectators. At night the parade

grounds were alive with would be Indians, howling, groaning and carrying the sport to the last stretch of their imagination in a supreme effort to leave a lasting impression with our comrades from the east that we were terrors.

Many of the boys had had their hair clipped close to their head on account of the continued hot weather. One of them, a member of the Sixth Illinois band, was sitting in the shade of a tree on the outskirts of the camp ground one afternoon. He had thrown his hat on the ground and was puffing hard on a corn-cob pipe. While in this position thinking of incidents which had occurred in the past few weeks, he was aroused by the curious actions of a soldier who had approached him quietly and was slowly walking around the tree against which the wondering Illinois soldier rested. The soldier was evidently a private from one of the eastern regiments.

After gazing at the reclining figure a moment, his eyes became glued on the uncovered head of the musician, and after a short pause he said, "Say comrade, how did you get those big scars on your head?" The man from Illinois grasped the situation like a flash and replied, "Well you see it was this way, a couple of years ago the Indians out our way got riled about something. I don't remember the cause now; at any rate they got troublesome and a dozen of us young fellows started out on their trail to corral them. We soon ran across them and in the mix-up two of our boys were killed and I was knocked senseless."

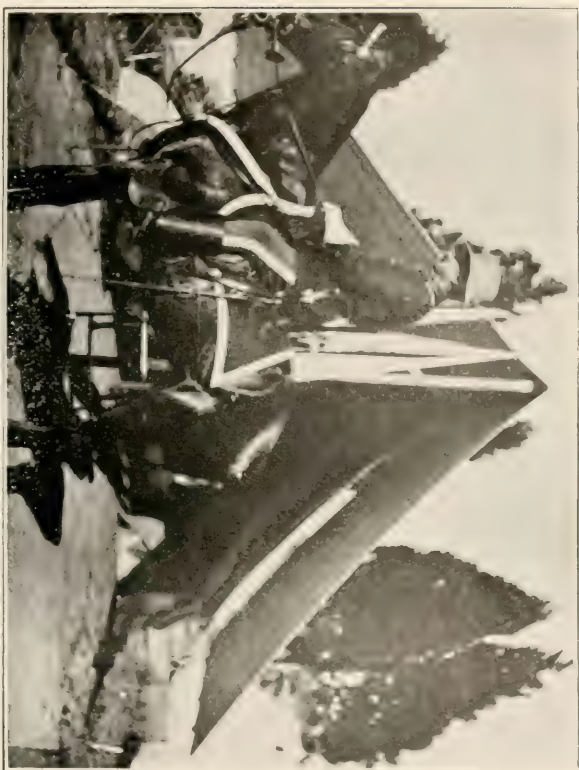
"The Indians supposed I was dead and one of them stole up and attempted to finish the job by scalping me. I revived just as he was preparing to make the final

swing with his knife and lift my hair. I managed to get my hand on my six-shooter which he had not taken time to secure, and as he was gloating over me, I half opened my eyes, took quick aim and fired. That poor red devil never knew what happened to him, for that piece of lead, half the size of your fist had bored a hole clear through his head, and with a yell he sprang into the air and fell on his face dead as a door nail."

"The other boys who had given chase to the redskins, returned in a couple of hours. They had met a troop of U. S. regulars and put them on the trail of the Indians. We picked up our dead comrades and returned to our homes. It was some time before I entirely recovered from the slashing I had received at the hands of the vicious Indian, and the hair has never grown on those spots since."

The man from the east drank in the whole story eagerly and as the man from Illinois finished the narrative he gathered himself up and pulled a big six-shooter from his hip pocket and caressed it tenderly. The stranger looked about him for a moment and seeing the way clear, backed away a few paces and turning, made a bee line for camp. The musician lay on the grass and laughed until he was sore. The fact of the matter was he fell from the top rail of a fence and cut his scalp quite severely when a mere boy, and it had left him with the scars which had caught the eye of the wandering soldier from the east. This deception regarding the presence of the cow-boy and Indian in Illinois was kept up until a regiment of infantry arrived at camp from Kansas and another from Missouri, then we kept quiet on these matters.

On May twenty-fourth, General Graham appointed



MAJOR DAVID E. CLARK.



Colonel Foster to the command of the Second brigade, making him acting Brigadier General of volunteers. This unexpected honor to the Colonel of our regiment was hailed with delight by our boys, and our camp life was brightened for a time. The appointment was not permanent, however, and not long afterward General Garretson from Ohio was placed in command of the brigade.

May twenty-seventh, General Graham reviewed the troops of his command, and complimented them highly on their military appearance. The day following, the troops passed in review before President McKinley, Vice President Hobart, Sec'y Alger, Gen'l Miles and a number of other Government officials.

The President and his party arrived on the grounds at three thirty p. m., escorted by two troops of New York Cavalry. The parade formed immediately afterwards. It was exactly one hour from the time the first company passed the reviewing stand until the last went by. There were eleven regiments in line: First New Jersey; Seventh and Eighth Ohio; Sixty-Fifth New York; Sixth Illinois; Sixth Massachusetts; Eighth, Twelfth and Thirteenth Pennsylvania; Fifteenth Indiana and Twelfth Missouri. Two or three of the regiments that were in camp did not participate in the review for some cause.

Colonel Foster was in command of the Second brigade, First division of the Second army corps, which was composed of the Sixth Illinois, Sixth Massachusetts and Eighth Ohio. Lieut. Colonel Kittilsen was in command of our regiment. This brigade was the recipient of many compliments on the showing it made, as company after company swung by the reviewing stand with regular step and perfect line. It was without doubt the

best equipped and most thoroughly drilled brigade at Camp Alger.

After the review the Presidents party drove through each regiment's quarters and was greeted with rounds of cheers on every side.

We were never in want for music. Nearly every regiment present had either a band or fife and drum corps. The fife and drum corps of the Sixth Massachusetts was extremely persistent in its rehearsals and it could be heard the first thing in the morning, all through the day and late at night. The Washington papers gave the Eighth Ohio band first place, with the Sixth Illinois band as a close second; but thanks to the continued efforts of Chief Musician Prestine, our band kept steadily improving until we readily saw it was first in the favor of the many camp visitors whose interest in the boys in blue never lagged.



## CHAPTER X.

The hours of duty were lengthened shortly after our arrival at Camp Alger. First call for reveille sounded at five fifteen a. m. and taps at nine thirty p. m.; we were given an hour's hard drilling, from six thirty until seven thirty in the morning; an hour and thirty minutes before mess at noon; and from three o'clock until four in the afternoon, with dress parade at six thirty in the evening.

Our regiment held its first dress parade and review on the evening of May twenty-fifth. The band marched down the line to the stirring strains of the good old "First Brigade March." The review was fine and elicited great applause from the visitors. The regiment marched in column of companies before Colonel Foster, and the alignment and step was perfect.

Orders were read to the men practically establishing a dead line one mile from camp; or in other words, a soldier who was found beyond the mile limit from camp without permission was subject to court martial. A portion of the Articles of War was read to the men each night to familiarize them with the regulations which controlled their actions at all times, whether on or off duty.

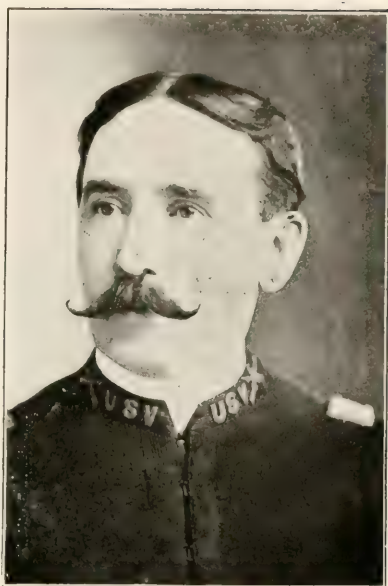
Privates Goodman and Little, of company E, were

detailed to duty in the hospital, and private John Strock of the same company, regimental color guard. May twenty-eighth, Captain Lawrie made the following appointments in company E: Corporal Sheldon to be Sergeant; private McNeil, Corporal; private Book, Wagoner. Private Will Flock was detailed to special duty in the quartermaster's department.

Major Anthony established a theoretical school of instruction to soldiers, or "The first aid to the wounded." He explained to us how the various injuries and wounds should be treated when unable to secure medical assistance. We were given thirty minutes of this instruction daily.

Quite a sensation was caused in camp when we were informed that Colonel Girard, Chief Surgeon in command of the First division hospital, had ordered the regimental surgeons to turn over to the division hospital all of their supplies such as cots, bedding, tents etc. The information given out carried with it the idea that this was done in order to centralize the work of caring for the invalid soldiers. A vigorous protest was made by our surgeons. The cots and bedding in our hospital were furnished the regiment by Senator Mason and Mrs. Electa Smith from their private funds and Major Anthony decided that the supplies received from this source did not come under the jurisdiction of Colonel Girard. The transfer of this equipment meant the relinquishing of all hopes of securing respectable treatment for our boys as the division hospital was a farce.

It was lacking in equipment, nurses, supplies, medicines and surgical instruments, with which the regimental hospitals were kept supplied. A rigid examination of the existing conditions at the division hospital brought



CAPT. JOHN J. CAIRNS,  
Regt'l Adj. Sixth Inf.



to light the fact that the patients were poorly cared for, while the men in the regimental hospitals were receiving the best of treatment and supplies were constantly being brought in in large quantities by private parties.

Major Anthony decided to risk a court martial rather than see the result of so much time and labor thrown into the hands of the surgeons at the division hospital, and refused point blank to deliver his supplies to Colonel Girard. The controversy was carried on for some time and eventually resulted in the retention of the regimental hospital.

The next move of Colonel Girard was to order the transfer into the regular service of all members of the volunteer hospital corps. This caused another stir among the men who would be effected by the order, but there was no way of avoiding it and the final result was that several of the Sixth regiment were transferred to the regular service, with the verbal understanding that they were to be allowed to remain with their regiment and be mustered out with it.

Ralph Humphrey of company I. and Gay Rodgers of company E were among the number.

We had just fairly settled ourselves in our quarters when we were ordered to strike tents and move across the road. The boys had been putting in the hours off duty in building bunks in their tents. We drove crotched sticks in the ground, on these we placed strong poles, then a layer of bark from trees, then an armful of pine twigs and over all a blanket was thrown, making a very comfortable bed, and raised about six inches from the ground. This work was just completed when the order came to move and on June third we reluctantly packed our belongings and

camp equipage and began life anew in our new quarters.

Our new site was on a side hill, the lower end of the company street terminating at the very edge of the timber land. On our right wound the corduroy road leading to Falls Church. This had become a very busy thoroughfare, and a continual string of teams was passing our tents from early morning until late in the evening. The soil was sandy, and the weather hot and dry and every gust of wind would fill our eyes and cover everything about us with dust.

Along this road opposite our quarters, it had been built up solid for nearly a half a mile with temporary structures of wood and canvas. There was a barber-shop, billiard hall, shooting gallery, and several dining halls, with numerous refreshment stands intermingling. Once in a while a blockade of teams would occur and then the mule-whacker could be heard for half a mile as he urged his four-in-hand through the labyrinth of vehicles:

A few days previous to our moving to the new camp site we were given another degree in soldiering by the appearance of "greybacks." We had been drawing clothing and one of the boys, among other articles had been issued a new flannel shirt. He had taken the clothing to his tent and was looking it over when he saw something crawling on the collar of the shirt. He picked the shirt up and called the attention of several of his comrades to the moving object and they decided it was the old original army greyback and they scattered instantly.

The owner of the shirt carried it down to the

end of the company street and placed it on the ground where it was inspected by the whole company as there were but few of the boys who had ever seen one of the "critters." They all made sure to remain a respectful distance from the contaminating piece of cloth, while its owner stood by thinking of the \$1.85 which had been charged to his account in payment for the article. Turning the matter over in his mind he walked over, picked the shirt up and carried it back to his tent. He knew it would be a matter of only a few days until the new-comer would find him anyway and he may as well keep the shirt.

Mrs. Smith continued her visits to camp always bringing something for the boys to eat. Her smiling face and gentle voice had become almost a necessity to many of the volunteers. Her strong character and the enthusiasm with which she kept at her self-imposed task was an inspiration to all those who witnessed it, and the effect was noticeable long after her departure.

It was through her efforts that bugler Esbelman of company E. received his discharge and was sent home. He had been in poor health for some time and camp life was rapidly wearing him out. As soon as Mrs. Smith came to know the circumstances she took immediate steps to hurry his release. An application for his discharge had been forwarded to the War Department on the grounds of physical disability. As soon as the discharge was granted Mrs. Smith took him to her home in Washington and cared for him for several days until she felt he was in fit condition to make the journey home safely. He left Washington for Sterling the second week in June.

Early in June, the government having decided to



fill every organization to its maximum, officers were detailed from all Illinois regiments to visit their home stations and there recruit each company to its desired number of one hundred and six enlisted men from the neighborhood where the company was originally organized. First Lieutenant Dillon of company E was appointed recruiting officer of the First battalion of the Sixth regiment. A man from each company was detailed to accompany him and aid in the recruiting; Sergeant Osborne of company I and private Bensinger of company E were detailed from those two companies. They left Camp Alger for Illinois, June seventh. Lieut. Dillon opened a recruiting office in Sterling and he soon had the desired number of volunteers. He, with the enlisted men detailed to assist him returned and reported for duty at Camp Alger June twenty-sixth.

The recruits for companies E and I arrived at Camp Alger at intervals between the nineteenth and twenty-sixth of June and were as follows: Company E; Clare Brumley, Ford Brittenham, Moses N. Dillon, Isaac Davis, Charles Eberle, Harry Eberle, Ed. Haberle, Louis E. Hayes, Fred A. Johnson, Mert Jackson, G. A. McKelvey and J. D. Walck, who were sworn into the service at Sterling, June sixteenth, by Lieut. Dillon and departed the next morning for Camp Alger. They reported to Capt. Lawrie for duty on the morning of June nineteenth.

Twelve more men for Company E were mustered at Sterling, June eighteenth and embarked for Camp Alger, June twentieth, reporting for duty June twenty third. They were: Frank Apple, Howard Armstrong, William Connell, Ernest Esterbrooks, Frank Heath, Wilber Jackson, R. E. Jackson, Richard O. Jones,



CAPT. FRANK W. BARBER.  
Q.-M. Sixth Inf.



Walter Latherow, Harold Matlack, Arthur Overholser and Bert Sneed. John Drew signed the muster roll June twenty-third and started for Washington immediately. This completed the roster of company E.

June nineteenth, twenty recruits reported to Capt. Colebaugh for duty in company I, they were: Olin Cargay, Marcus L. Drennen, Walter C. Drury, George Freek, Charles Freek, George Hunt, Byron Humphrey, Rollin Humphrey, Arthur Lewis, Charles Lewis, William Leslie, Edmund S. Langdon, Bert Palmer, Charles Reafsnyder, Ernest Snyder, John Stowell, Arthur Sears, Schuyler Sweeney, Olin Wells and Frank Weaver. June twenty-third, Albert Anstett, Guy Humphrey, Irvin Stumbaugh, Frank Wells and Fred White joined company I; and on June twenty-sixth: Harry Bent came into comp. This gave company I a full complement of men.

A misunderstanding occurred in the enlistment of private Langdon. His father applied for his discharge, and it was granted, "by way of favor." It took some time to secure his release but it was accomplished and he returned to his home. The vacancy thus caused was filled by the enlistment of William Boilshaus. Private Brubaker of Company I was transferred to the Signal Corps and detached from the company and regiment.

The practice drills continued regularly, and soon the recruits were placed in the ranks by the side of the older men. The effect of the course of instruction which the volunteers constantly received was quite evident. At regimental dress parade, the troops from the unoccupied regiments would congregate to witness the maneuvers of the men of the regiment that was on parade. Hundreds of visitors from Washington and the surrounding country

were usually on hand each evening for the same purpose. When the Sixth Illinois formed and executed the manual of arms drill there was nothing in camp that could touch it. With the command, "order arms," every rifle came down at the same time with a thud; the left hand of each man dropped to his side with a precision like clock work, and the men never failed to receive hearty applause.

In passing in review before the commanding officer and his staff, each company, with few exceptions, held a perfect line and kept regular step. Colonel Foster was extremely proud of his command and was the recipient of many words of praise from the brigade and division officers for the splendid showing made by the men of his regiment.

A limited number of passes were issued to the men each day and they eagerly took advantage of the opportunity to visit the city of Washington. A three mile ride in the dirt and dust to Falls Church, and about ten miles on an electric car, up hill and down dale, whizzing around sharp curves and over bridges in Old Virginia, bringing up suddenly on the bank of the Potomac opposite Georgetown; taking foot passage over the bridge into this suburb of the Capitol City, then a short ride on a street car and the party landed in the heart of the National Capitol.

There was much to be seen and usually the time was limited to a few hours in the city. The Capitol building and White House must not be over looked; then there was the Navy yard, the Marine barracks, the U. S. Museum, Treasury and Navy building, the Congressional Library, which is the finest building in the world, with its long corridors, library rooms and large open stairs, all built of the best granite and marble the world

produces and very highly polished. Both the upper and lower domes on this building are over laid with gold leaf on the out side. The walls of the interior are adorned with beautiful paintings and works of art wrought by master hands. The wide shelves and mammoth tables are laden with books, papers and magazines published centuries ago.

Washingtons monument must also be visited before returning. This testimonial erected in memory of the father of our country, is thirty five feet square at the base and towers five hundred and fifty five feet above the earth. The interior is open and contains a winding stairway from bottom to top. An elevator makes the ascent and descent every thirty minutes. The stones used in the construction of this memorial were contributed by the many states, and societies of the union, each one bearing an appropriate inscription.

Arriving at the upper landing a birds-eye view of the city and the country for miles surrounding is had, men and women, on the lawn far below look like pigmies. The waters of the Potomac shimmering in the sunlight can be traced for miles and as its course grows fainter and fainter in the distance it appears like a band of silver girdling this part of the world. The city itself, lies spread out before you like a page of an open book. Its labyrinth of streets and avenues, bordered by beautiful shade trees and handsome residences are bewildering while the pure white of the federal buildings nestling among the green foliage of the many gardens rests the eye and reflects peace and security over all. Descending in the elevator the party turns its steps toward the Lincoln home. It is getting late and the boys complete their day of sightseeing by taking a drive through

the residence portion of the city and return to camp very tired but more than pleased with the result of the days excursion.





L. R. GAYLORD,  
1st Lieut., Adj. 1st Bat Sixth Ill. Vol.



## CHAPTER XI.

June fourth, General George R. Garrettson, of Columbus, O., assumed command of the Second brigade, relieving Colonel Foster who had been in command since May twenty fourth. Capt. Cairns who had been acting Ass't Adj't Gen'l at brigade headquarters was also relieved and returned to regimental headquarters.

The men were growing weary of camp life. They were not tired of soldiering but were restless and anxious to begin active service. We were fitted out with uniforms and clothing very slowly. The one bright spot in these long days of monotonous drilling and camp duty was the day the paymaster made his first visit at camp. We signed the pay roll June eighth and the following morning we lined up and one at a time received our pay.

This was the first money the boys had received since their leaving home and they were sadly in need of it. Many of them had entered the service with but little money in their pockets. Some were yet wearing citizens clothing and had been compelled to purchase various articles of wearing apparel, besides the dining halls and refreshment stands hard by had lured the loose change from the pockets of the majority of the soldiers and long before the arrival of the paymaster their last cent was gone. They soon began to realize that they must plan differently, that fifteen dollars and sixty cents per month

would not meet their expenses at the pace which had been set and immediately after receiving their first pay from Uncle Sam a goodly portion of it was sent directly home.

Intoxicating liquors had been kept away from our quarters as much as possible. The Pennsylvania regiments had a wide open canteen running but nothing of the kind was allowed in the neighborhood of the Illinois or Ohio regiments. The crafty fellows in our vicinity were not slow to take advantage of the situation and they sold whiskey on the sly until they were caught and put under arrest. We called them "moonshiners" and the stuff they sold was known as "moonshine whiskey." It was about the worst mixture that ever tickled a palate. It was prepared in such a way that a man could drink a quantity of it but would not feel the effects of the overindulgence for several hours. Take several drinks in the middle of the day and towards evening he would begin to feel queer, couldn't find the tent he lived in, wander around awhile, begin to feel a little sick, wobble and stagger a few moments and then he would give up in despair, "Don't care if I never get home," and generally landed in the guard house, waking up in the morning he would reach out a foot or so feeling for his head and wonder what it all meant. Not until then did he know the full meaning of "moonshine whiskey."

Talk about "cullud" folks. They were so plenty in that country that it would get dark about three o'clock in the afternoon; no matter how bright the sun was shining it always appeared like twilight. Ask one of them how far it was to a certain point and the general reply was—"Well, I doan know exactly, sah, but it's ah right smaht ways." The white people were but little in ad-

vance of the "cullud" folks. They were unmercifully slow. They would not hurry under any circumstances, a good man from our country would work all around them. They speak with the twang peculiar to the Virginia people and it was difficult to keep from laughing when talking with one of them. They were little better at judging distance than the negro; ask one of them the same question that was put to the negro and he would reply "about a mile," walk nearly two miles and your destination not in sight; ask another one how much farther it was and it was then a mile and a half. A Virginia mile was never understood by the western boys.

Shortly after Chaplain Morgan joined our regiment at Camp Alger he tendered his resignation to Colonel Foster. His age and health would not permit him to follow the fortunes and hardships of a campaign in a foreign climate. Colonel Foster considered the circumstances and regretfully accepted his resignation. He delivered his farewell sermon on the nineteenth day of June, (Sunday) and with difficulty kept from breaking down before completing his talk. He had been connected with the regiment for a long time and the thought of severing all connection with it at the time when we were on the eve of entering the strife, where his services would be so invaluable, nearly overcame him.

Private Jack W. Ferris of company D was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Chaplain Morgan. He was a Methodist clergyman and pastor of a flourishing church at Abingdon, Ill., when the war broke out and the President called for volunteers. He immediately tendered his resignation to the trustees of his church and took a place in the ranks as a private. He had shared camp life with his comrades, had enjoyed it, and

was as eager as any of them to get to the front.

At about this time a severe blow was administered to the many refreshment stands that were established in the neighborhood of the camp. The commander of the post issued a sweeping order, prohibiting the sale of pies, cakes, cookies, sandwiches, ice-cream or lemonade, within one mile of camp. The managers of these places had been doing a flourishing business, but the officers in command decided that the quality of the goods put out was of the poorest and detrimental to the health of the troops. The situation could be met in one way only and that was to stop the sale of the articles, which they did.

Shortly after this a vaudeville show erected a tent near our quarters. It received liberal patronage from the soldiers and in return the manager tendered the use of the tent to the Sixth Ill., in which to hold church services.

The camp was favored by a call from Dr. Mary Walker. She was selling pamphlets and poems of her own composition. She was dressed in man's costume, wearing a suit of black, prince Albert coat, black straw hat, white shirt and standing collar, and carried an umbrella. She was the source of a great deal of amusement among the boys and a great many of them doubted its being a woman at all.

Chaplain I. N. Keefer of the Eighth Ohio, died of heart trouble June twenty second. Military funeral services were held the following day and the corpse was escorted from camp by the regimental band and one company of infantry, his riderless horse following the funeral car. This was the man who, a few weeks previous, officiated at the funeral of the volunteer from Rock Island.

The weather continued hot and dry; there had been but little rain, and the wagon road which was in constant



NED JOHNSON,  
Reg. Sergt.-Major Sixth Inf. Vol.





use was ground into a bed of very fine sand. With every gust of wind came a flurry of dust and dirt; the clothing and quarters of our men were with difficulty kept presentable. We had sweltered in the sun, and battled with the dirt until every man in camp was anxiously awaiting a thundershower to break the drought and cool the atmosphere.

One sultry evening late in June it came; the rain came down in torrents, and the wind blew a hurricane. Everyone whose duties would allow it sought shelter in his tent. When the rain had ceased the boys crawled out of their tents and cheered themselves hoarse. And such a sight as the sky presented—every one in camp was out drinking in its beauty. In the east, a beautiful rainbow shone forth. It was perfect; stretching from north to south until lost in the horizon, clouds of a mellow gold drifted rapidly by into a background of a most delicate blue. The foliage of the neighboring trees glistened like wreaths of silver, while the rain drops trembling on the leaves sparkled like diamond settings as the slanting rays of the disappearing sun reflected o'er the scene. It was grand, and it was remarked on every hand that it was the most sublime spectacle ever witnessed.

With the companies increased to one hundred and six enlisted men, came new appointments of non-commissioned officers. June twenty-third Capt. Lawrie made the following promotions: Privates Deyoe, Reese Dillon, Triggs, Burkhart, Bert Johnson and Lineberry to be Corporals; private Clark was appointed musician, to fill the vacancy caused by the loss of bugler Eshelman, discharged. Private Hess was appointed company Artificer and private Smith detailed to duty at the regimental hospital. Sergeant Cushman was detailed to assist Ord-

nance Officer Eick as Ordnance Sergeant. Corporal Dillon was detailed to duty in the quartermaster's department.

The appointments in company I were: privates Burr, Hyatt, Charles Berry, Everhart, Sherwood and Snyder to be Corporals, and Hilton Willcox, Lance Corporal. Private Jenks was detailed to special duty at post headquarters, and private Kingery was appointed acting Veterinary Surgeon of the Sixth regiment and placed in charge of the officers horses.

The post commander had, for some time, contemplated giving the troops a long practice march to the Potomac river, and an opportunity to bathe in its waters. On June twenty-sixth, the Second brigade was instructed to prepare for a two days absence from camp. The following morning, each man was issued two days rations and fifty rounds of blank cartridges. We formed in heavy marching order and at six o'clock we marched out of camp with ten Virginia miles before us.

It was quite cool on the start and the rain a couple of days previous had put the roads in good condition, but as the sun rose higher in the heavens, it grew warm and we found plenty of dust before reaching our temporary camp, christened Camp Starvation. We arrived at ten o'clock a. m. and had our tents up in a very few moments. We were then given our liberty for a time and found we were not far from the Potomac river. We were cautioned about getting into the water until a suitable bathing place could be selected.

The Potomac is very picturesque at this place, winding its way through great cliffs; the stream itself is full of rocks and extremely treacherous. The current is swift and the rocks rising out of the water shelve off into the

stream where many of them sheer off abruptly, forming numerous holes many feet in depth. The banks were soon lined with men for nearly a mile and in a few moments the water was alive with shouting, laughing boys. They romped in the stream for some time and thoroughly enjoyed the sport. Private Dearth, of company B, from Geneseo, was drowned in attempting to swim the river. He was within a few feet of the bank when he suddenly sank out of sight. Every effort was made by expert divers to rescue him but without success. Grappling hooks were lowered and the river dragged but no trace of the body could be found for some time. The water was found to be nearly eighty feet in depth at the point where he went down.

This had no effect on the venturesome bathers and they continued to take the same risk which had proven so disastrous to one of their number until ordered out of the water by Major Anthony. In the afternoon, a party of the boys took a stroll about three miles from camp in search of a country store, as our rations consisted of coffee, hardtack and sowbelly, and our ten mile march had given us ravenous appetites.

After trudging along for some time we were about to retrace our steps, when, making a turn in the road we espied a cluster of buildings a short distance in advance; among them we saw the object of our search, a country store. We approached the miniature village, and on entering the store we found a large room with shelves nearly bare. The proprietor was busily engaged weighing up ten cents worth of "cohn-meal" for a colored customer, and looking about the vacant room we found this mans stock in trade to consist of a limited amount of the bare necessities of life: a few canned goods on the shelves, a box or two of crackers, a little sugar, a quantity of corn-

meal and a small supply of cigars, tobacco and pipes, in all about ten dollars worth of goods was in sight. We counted out our few nickles and dimes, and after an argument over the value of the articles we wished to purchase, we left him happy in the possession of nearly thirty cents.

Opposite the store, and back from the road a number of rods, nestled a low, rambling, southern farm house. On the veranda sat a young woman and romping on the lawn, a little boy and girl, aged about six and seven years, respectively. Filling our canteens at the town? pump near by, we crossed the street? and resting on the sloping lawn, opened the can of peaches, unwrapped the pound of cookies, which reminded us of the hardtack we had left at camp, and prepared to appease our gnawing hunger.

The housewife stopped her sewing and the children ceased their play; together they watched us at "mess" for a few moments, then the little ones timidly approached. We tendered them a portion of our supper which was rapidly disappearing, but they shook their heads and hung back. They soon overcame their timidity and sitting down plied us with questions, asking if we were still hungry? We replied in the affirmative, whereupon the little boy ran to the house, disappearing for a few moments he returned with a handful of vegetables fresh from the garden. Then both the little tots scampered back up the lawn and held a brief conversation with the lady, evidently their mother, the trio entered the house, reappearing directly, the children came towards us bearing between them a large pitcher of cold milk and a big cake. They sat the food before us and with eyes sparkling with delight, watched us as we stored it away.

We were just completing the rather sumptuous meal



REESE DILLON,  
Q.-M. Sergt. Sixth Inf., Vol.





when the father drove up. He had been to Washington and on the return had learned of the presence of the troops in that vicinity. He took the situation in at a glance and sitting by our side, related stories of the civil war. He was a native Virginian. The house was his, also the broad acres surrounding it. It was the property of his father in the sixties. General McCall's and Hancock's troops were encamped here during the fall of sixty one and spring of sixty two and had used his fathers farm for a drill and parade ground. General McCall had used the dwelling as his headquarters.

We were so occupied by the entertainment of our new found friends that night was upon us before we realized it. Hastily bidding the hospitable father and little ones goodbye we hurried toward camp. As we walked swiftly along whistling and singing, feeling contented and at peace with the world in general, congratulating ourselves on the success of our venture, and while yet nearly a mile from camp, we were brought to a standstill as we heard the warning notes of the bugle as it sounded "tat-too." We increased our pace to a run. As we tore over the brow of the hill which lay between us and our goal, we heard the final notes as they rose and fell on the night air. Before us lay the city of tents, the flickering flames of the tallow candles shining dimly through the canvas shelters; we heard the voice of the "Top Sergeant" as he ordered the men to "fall in for roll call" and we knew we could never cover the distance and would "miss check." We hurried along and ran plump into a sentinel, and were again brought to a stop by the command "Halt! Who comes there?" We had forgotten that our regiment was expecting an attack from the Massachusetts boys and had a double guard out with instructions to be wide awake and not caught napping. We

formulated a flimsy yarn about being guards just relieved from duty and came in to get something to eat, and after a little parley, we were allowed to pass. We crawled under our shelter tent and the next morning at roll call were informed that they thought we had been drowned as we were last seen at the river the day before.

Extra precautions had been taken throughout the night to prevent our being surprised by the "enemy," the men sleeping with cartridge belts and rifles by their side. Nothing occurred and we slept soundly until daylight. After a light breakfast we broke camp and began the return march. Advance, rear and flank guards were put out and the line of march was guarded in every way in the same manner as it would have been had we been in the heart of the Spanish country.

It was very hot, the boys began to drop out of the line and the ambulances were soon filled. When about half way to Camp Alger we were attacked by the Sixth Massachusetts and a troop of New York Cavalry. The conflict was warm for a couple of hours; during the battle we captured a number of prisoners, held our wagon train and repulsed the enemy. A short distance from camp the Massachusetts boys intrenched themselves behind the railroad embankment and made a final stand. but a spirited charge on the part of our boys drove them from their position and the battle was over. We arrived in camp at eleven o'clock a. m., tired and dirty yet all appeared to have enjoyed the march. This was the first of a series of sham battles that occurred in the timber near camp, in which the troops showed a surprising amount of tact on the skirmish line.

## CHAPTER XII.

As the weeks passed, the volunteers at Camp Alger became more proficient as a result of the severe training which they had undergone since their muster in, and they felt they were capable of duty at the front. The closing days of June found them only partially equipped for field service. Ordnance Officer Eick and Quartermaster Barber of our regiment, were doing their utmost to secure the necessary supplies to put the men on a war footing.

The many rumors that floated about camp, kept the men continually on the qui vive, hourly expecting the order to come calling them into active service.

Major W. T. Channon, commanding the first battalion of our regiment, was attached to the general staff of Gen'l Graham, from June seventeenth until June twenty-fifth, acting as provost-marshal-general. Second Lieut. George W. Flood of company A, First battalion, was also attached to the general staff, acting as assistant-provost-marshal from June seventh to June twenty-fourth. Capt. Lawrie of Company E commanded the First battalion during the absence of Major Channon.

Corporal Dillon of company E received the intelligence of a death in his family and was granted a seven days furlough. He immediately boarded the cars en-route for Sterling. Corporal Leatherwood of company

I also received a furlough of several days and was absent for a time.

During the two months we had been in the service, the home people had never lost sight of us for an instant. We were constantly receiving boxes and packages put up by loving hands, containing good things to eat and supplies for the hospital. Now and then a package would be received, the miscellaneous contents of which told the story of the thoughtfulness of the mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts of the absent soldier boys. The Womans Relief Corps, of the different towns were prominent factors in the distribution of these generous gifts to the soldiers.

From Sterling, Rock Falls, Morrison, Erie, Prophetstown, Lyndon and Albany the precious parcels came and their arrival was always hailed with delight.

The pleasure evinced by the soldiers on receiving these articles was caused not more by the possession of them, than by the silent messages which they betokened. Although twelve hundred and fifty miles of mountain and prairie land separated us from home, we felt secure in the knowledge that the moral and material support of our friends would ever be forthcoming.

With many indications of our regiments early departure for the front, the letters from relatives and friends grew more grave and tender, breathing words of praise and encouragement, causing the first feeling of homesickness to enter the hearts of many of the boys as they eagerly devoured the contents, word by word, and pictured to themselves the family group as it gathered in the far away home, anxiously watching the progress of the war and calculating on the prospects of their own boy being safely returned to the family fold. Distance



Chief Musician John Prestin.



lends enchantment, and the homes, always precious, but doubly so under the circumstances, filled the thoughts of the soldiers and a feeling of depression would steal o'er them as they allowed their minds to wander back to Illinois. They were given but little time for such reflections and the activity all about them quickly turned their thoughts to other channels.

Among other letters received from home was one from Emeline Lodge, No. 8, Degree of Rebekah, I. O. O. F., of Morrison. This letter expressed the feeling of interest taken in the volunteers from Illinois by the patriotic citizens of the State, and in view of this fact, permission to publish the letter in full, was sought and granted. The communication was addressed to Capt. Colebaugh of company I but referred to the volunteers in general, a complete copy of which follows.

MORRISON, ILL., JUNE 24, 1868.

Capt. W. F. Colebaugh,  
Co. I, 6th Regiment,  
Camp Alger Va.

TO OUR SOLDIER BOYS:

The Emeline Lodge No. 8, D. of R. has requested me to write. Although not surprised by the command, I know that I can not do justice as my heart is too full of the great and glorious cause that has brought you together but I cannot disobey the order of those who have commanded me to write. You, soldiers, have about ended your career as mere holiday troops, I believe, and are now about to buckle on the armor and to unsheathe the swords of gallant knights enrolled to maintain, uphold and defend that Constitution and that Union which were hammered out amidst the fires of the Revolution, and cemented by the blood of the fathers and heroes of the war of our independence. That temple in which the exiles of despotism from all parts of the



world have always sought an asylum; while the evening tattoo will bid you to sleep on your burnished arms, ready, at any moment, to rally at the bugle call to the rescue of that flag which has already floated in triumph over every sea and in every clime. The hour that you left us was in some respects painful, for you leave your wives, your kinsfolk, and your cheerful happy homes. And yet, our greatest regret is, that we, too, cannot join your ranks, enroll our names upon your muster and rally with you under those dear old Stripes and Stars. You are, indeed, to be envied that you can go, and the buttons you wear, the swords that gird your thighs, the epaulettes that mark and designate your rank, are all badges of honor, of shivalry, of duty in the field, which we can only covet, not enjoy. You, and such as you, are the honored children of this glorious republic, of whom, in after times, when peace has been restored, the children shall say, as they point at you with pride, and their eyes sparkle with delight, as you shall pass along the pathway of life; "There goes one of our soldier boys." Honors shall cluster thick around you, and garlands of myrtle shall be woven by fairy fingers to entwine around your brows and when finally you shall be gathered to another and brighter world on the slab that marks your resting place shall be engraven these words: "Sacred to the Memory of a Soldier of the U. S." Go, then, soldiers of the U. S., to a proud and glorious victory, or to a soldier's honored grave. Our prayer at morning and evening shall be—God bless, protect and save our country and its noble sons.

As I have said before, we regret we must stay at home, yet if we must stay we shall try to help you in every way we can. If at any time or any place we can send you articles of any kind to make you more comfortable we will do so if you will only let us know what is needed.

The young girls of our Lodge are a little shy, yet they send their love but wanted to send angel food cake.

Hoping you may allow us to aid you, in behalf of

the Lodge I will wish you health and success in all you undertake.

Your Prairie State Friends,

DAISY D. POND,

Secretary.

Many letters of like character were received but during the packing and unpacking of our effects which occurred many times in the following months, they were lost. A pathetic little incident occurred in camp on the first day of June when Lieut. Colonel Kittilsen read a letter from a little girl, six years of age, of Moline. She was the daughter of an old comrade who was taken ill and died a few years ago at one of the National Guard encampments. The letter read as follows:

Dear Mr. Kittilsen: I heard my mamma reading in the paper that some of the boys that went in company F were sick and needed some things, and I send you some money that I have saved, and I want you to buy some things for some of the sick boys.

Moline, Ill., May 28th, 1898.

From your little friend,

ALTA WALKER.

Inclosed with the letter was a check for fifty-three cents and a letter from the little girls grandfather, inclosing a larger contribution; and one from a lady in Moline apprising the lieut. colonel that a quantity of supplies made by some of her friends and herself were on their way to camp.

The boys of company E, wishing to show their gratitude and appreciation of the many kind acts of Mrs. Smith, raised a fund in the company and purchased a neat silver card receiver, had it suitably engraved and presented it to her. In acknowledging the

gift Mrs. Smith addressed the following letter to the boys:

Treasury Department,  
Office of Auditor of Postoffice Department,  
Washington, D. C.,

To Members of Company E, Sixth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry; My Dear Friends: It is with sincere gratiude that I acknowledge the lovely gift you so generously granted, and it shall be treasured beyond the expression of words, and my future life will be happier for the memories it will always awaken. My prayers will follow the brave hearts of Company E, Illinois Volunteers, as they eagerly hasten to defend the cause of a greater humanity and for higher civilization. I know you will proudly maintain "Old Glory" and may God bless and protect you and bring you home safely is the earnest wish of your sincere friend,  
ELECTA E. SMITH.

These and many other cheering messages were received and read to the men. The source from which they came gave the men renewed courage and they determined on giving their friends no cause to think they were undeserving.

The members of company I, desiring to promote a feeling of close comradeship between themselves and their company officers, presented Captain Colebaugh and Lieutenant Lawton each a handsome, gold mounted sword. The recipients of the gifts prized them highly and expressed their gratitude to the donors. They were by far the neatest blades carried by line officers which came under our notice throughout the campaign. This incident occurred on the fourth day of July, 1898.

On the second of July one of Uncle Sams representatives again visited our camp and left a slight reminder that we had served him faithfully for another



CAPT. F. J. CLENDENIN,  
Co. F, Sixth Inf., Vol.  
Present rank, Lieut.-Col. Asst. Adj.  
Gen. 3d Brigade, Ill. N. G.



month. About thirty-one hundred dollars was distributed among the men of the regiment, a goodly portion of this soon disappeared, some sending theirs home and not a few spending their portion freely until it was nearly gone. Fortunately for the boys in general a number of them foresaw that an emergency might arise, where a little ready money would prove invaluable to the men, and they preserved a sum which, although not large, was the means of relieving the pangs of hunger and furnished clothing for many during the dark days which followed and which none could foresee. In truth more than one man who is enjoying good health today owes his preservation to the kind and ready friends who had fortified themselves with a few dollars which they generously divided among their needy comrades who in their enfeebled condition could not have existed on the rations issued them.

Thursday, June twenty-third we were instructed to pack our accoutrements and be prepared to leave camp the next day. The Eighth Ohio and seventy-five men from each company of the First battalion of our regiment were to be sent to Cuba to re-enforce the Fifth Army Corps. under command of General Shafter. The order came late at night and bright and early next morning the boys were hard at work getting their few belongings into portable shape, but at noon the order was countermanded and we suffered our first real disappointment.

The boys took their medicine like men and sorrowfully began to unroll their blankets and begin another siege of waiting. We were instructed to unpack such articles as absolutely necessary as we might be ordered out at any moment. General Duffield, in command of the Separate brigade, consisting of the Thirty-third and

Thirty-fourth Michigan and Ninth Massachusetts regiments of Infantry received the preference and taking the Thirty-third and one battalion of the Thirty-fourth Mich. he moved out of camp enroute for Cuba; the remainder of the brigade followed a few days later. This brigade arrived in Cuba in time to reach the scene of battle and participate in the glorious victory of General Shafter's troops, General Duffield himself nearly succumbing to an attack of "yellow jack" and a number of officers and enlisted men were killed and wounded in the several engagements in which they participated. This was the fate of the troops who forestalled us in getting to the front. From the time of receiving the first order to be in readiness to march out of camp, until we did get out, we were held in readiness constantly to move on short notice.

The volunteers at Camp Alger represented fourteen states with from one to three regiments from each state. In July the total strength of the troops at this camp, comprising the Second Army Corps, was twenty two thousand one hundred seventy-five officers and enlisted men. The general health of the men continued good up to the time of the removal of our brigade, although a few cases of typhoid and malarial fever developed in June.

About six weeks after the departure of our regiment, or to be exact, on the fifteenth of August the War Department ordered the transfer of the Second Army Corps to Middletown, Pa. The removal of the troops began immediately and before the last of the month "Camp Alger" was a camp in memory only. The camp at Middletown was named Camp George Gordon Meade, in honor of the hero of Gettysburg, an illustrious son of the state of Pennsylvania.



## CHAPTER XIII.

During the days of our camp life, our time and thoughts were engrossed by the many experiences we met with in performing the duties of a soldier. The newness of our surroundings had worn off to a great extent by the close of June and we began to look back to the scenes and incidents which had occurred elsewhere. Evidence of great activity was on every hand and the recruiting had been continued long after we had gone from our homes.

In the month of May the President had made a second call for an additional seventy five thousand volunteers. Congress had authorized an increase of the Regular Army to sixty one thousand men, and in addition had provided for sixteen regiments of volunteer troops. (Immunes.) During the month of July the total aggregate strength of the Regular and Volunteer Army was two hundred sixty eight thousand, three hundred fifty-two, officers and enlisted men. This number was increased in August to two hundred seventy four thousand, seven hundred seventeen, which represented the largest number of soldiers, regular and volunteer, in the service, during any one month throughout the Spanish American war.

April first, just previous to the outbreak of the war, the aggregate strength of the Regular Army was

twenty eight thousand, one hundred eighty-three, officers and men. Thus it may be seen that in ninety days from the declaration of war, over a quarter of a million men had been recruited, mobilized at the state rendezvous, mustered into the United States service hurried to the many permanent camps designated by the War Department, and organized into brigades, divisions and army corps, and under the guidance of Regular Army officers, who had grown gray in the service, formed an army which, for intelligence and patriotism had never been excelled in the history of the world. During the next thirty days this force was augmented by over six thousand men,, with thousands upon thousands more formed into provisional regiments eagerly awaiting another call for troops.

In the Navy the number of enlisted men allowed by law prior to the outbreak of hostilities was twelve thousand five hundred. On August fifteenth, when the enlisted force reached its maximum, there were twenty four thousand, one hundred twenty-four men in the service. This great increase was made necessary by the addition of one hundred twenty-eight ships to the Navy. This increase in the number of vessels brought the maximum fighting force from sixty-eight to one hundred ninety-six.

The war was progressing with great strides, both on the land and on the sea. Our soldiers and our sailors were transported to the scenes of conflict in both the Old World and the New. The area of Spanish rule was slowly but surely contracting and it was but a question of a few weeks at the most when they would be driven from many of their possessions. History was being made rapidly and every man who was aiding in bringing success to the Ameri-



COL. THEO. ROOSEVELT.



can forces took a great pride in his work. The officials at Washington were ever on the alert, more than half expecting the Spanish government would succeed in securing the assistance of some foreign power in their behalf, but fortunately for us, and possibly for themselves all of the powers took a neutral stand and left the opposing governments to settle the question between themselves.

The first test of the fighting qualities of the opposing forces occurred on the first day of May. Commodore Dewey, on that day, destroyed the Spanish fleet in Manila bay without the loss of a man on the part of our forces, while the Spanish loss was three hundred eighty one men killed and wounded. The downfall of the city of Manila did not occur for some time, not until after the arrival of General Merritt; on the fifteenth day of August the city capitulated and the American flag was floated to the breeze over Spanish soil.

On May twelfth the fleet under command of Admiral Sampson bombarded the Spanish fortification at San Juan, Porto Rico. On the morning of May thirty first the fleet under command of Commodore Schley, exchanged shots with the Spanish vessels in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba with no apparent effect on either side. On June seventh the *Marblehead* and *Tankee* took possession of the lower bay of Guantanamo and on June tenth the first battalion of marines landed there and went into camp where for three days and nights these men fought almost constantly. On June fifteenth the fort in this bay was destroyed.

On June fourteenth, General Shafter with a force of eight hundred fifteen officers and sixteen thousand seventy two enlisted men sailed from Port Tampa, Fla.

The expedition arrived in the vicinity of Santiago on the twentieth, began disembarking on the twenty second and continued until the evening of the twenty fourth. On the morning of the twenty fourth General Young's brigade had a spirited engagement with a force of Spanish and drove the enemy from the field.

For a week following the landing of the troops in Cuba, General Shafter was busily engaged in concentrating his men at the desired points of attack and on July first with the co-operation of the Cuban troops the advance on Santiago was begun and resulted in the now famous battle of El Caney, where the Spanish works were carried by assault, and the brilliant charge of the American troops up San Juan Hill.

The Stars and Stripes were floating over El Caney and San Juan Hill before nightfall of the first of July, and the outer works of the enemy had been carried. For two days following this victory the Spanish kept up a series of attacks without avail and at noon of the third of July General Shafter sent a letter into the Spanish lines under a flag of truce apprising the commander of the Spanish forces that the city of Santiago would be shelled unless he surrendered, and requested General Toral to inform the citizens of foreign countries, and all women and children, that they should leave the city before ten o'clock the following morning.

General Toral refused to surrender and informed the non-combatants of the contents of General Shafter's letter. A party of foreign consuls came into the American lines and requested that the time limit for leaving the city be extended until ten o'clock July fifth, this was granted and the cessation of firing at noon of the third of July practically terminated the battle of Santiago.

The fleet of American vessels off Santiago assisted in this battle by keeping up a heavy bombardment of the enemy's works at Santiago and the towns situated along the coast in that vicinity. The American losses in these battles were twenty two officers and two hundred eight men killed, and eighty one officers and one thousand two hundred three men wounded; missing seventy nine. The missing with few exceptions reported later.

The news of this victory of our forces in and about Cuba was received with much satisfaction by the people in the States. The great loss of life was deprecated and with the tears of joy brought forth by the success of the boys in blue came the breathing of earnest prayers in behalf of the dead and dying heroes who had made the victory possible. The enemy had confronted our troops with numbers about equal to our own; they fought obstinately in strong and intrenched positions, and the results obtained clearly indicated the intrepid gallantry of the company officers and men of our forces, and the wise guidance of the field officers in command.

On the morning of July third occurred the naval fight off Santiago, where the American fleet under the direct command of Commodore Schley, in the absence of Admiral Sampson, destroyed Admiral Cervera's Squadron. The casualties on our side were one man killed and ten wounded, our ships suffering no injury of any account. Admiral Cervera, about seventy officers and sixteen hundred men were made prisoners, while about three hundred fifty Spaniards were killed or drowned and one hundred and sixty wounded. Just a month to a day previous to this naval engagement occurred the sinking of the collier *Merrimac* across the entrance of the harbor of Santiago in an attempt to completely bottle up Admiral Cervera's squadron which had



been lying in the harbor since the nineteenth of May. The attempt though unsuccessful in its object, was daringly executed. It is now one of the well-known historic marvels of naval adventure and enterprise, in which Naval Constructor Hobson and his men won undying fame.

Thus far the hand of providence had seemingly been raised in behalf of the American forces in every engagement in which they had participated, both on land and sea. Our people felt that the Army and Navy were equal to any emergency that might arise and were certain of success, while on the other hand the Spaniards must have been depressed and were fast losing heart in the struggle which had resulted so disastrously to their arms.

Letters passed between General Shafter and General Toral caused the cessation of hostilities to continue; Each army, however, continued to strengthen its intrenchments. The strength of the enemy's position was such General Shafter did not wish to assault if it could be avoided. An examination of the enemy's works, made after the surrender, fully justified the wisdom of the course adopted. The intrenchments could only have been carried with very great loss of life.

At four o'clock p. m., on July tenth, the truce was broken off. The city was bombarded by the Navy and General Shafter's field guns and was continued until two p. m., July eleventh, when the firing ceased and was not again renewed. The surrender of the city was again demanded. General Toral communicated General Shafter's proposition to his general-in-chief, General Blanco, the troops of both armies rested on their arms awaiting the consideration of the proposition by the Spanish.

Such was the situation as we found it on the arrival of our regiment off Santiago at three o'clock p. m., Monday, July eleventh. The failure of the city of Santiago to surrender was cause for the anticipation on the part of the commander of the American forces that an assault might yet be necessary and reinforcements were hurried to him from the States.

The data for this brief review of the progress of the war was secured from the annual report of the Secretary of the War and Secretary of the Navy.

## CHAPTER XIV.

Tuesday, July fifth, the Second brigade received orders to prepare for immediate departure for Santiago,—the Eighth Ohio to go via New York City and the St. Paul, the Sixth Mass. and Sixth Ill. via Charleston, S. C., and the Yale and Columbia. This order was received with loud cheers and some hustling was done, which soon put us in condition for traveling. At two o'clock in the afternoon the tents fell. The Ohio boys got away first, followed by the Mass. regiment, then our regiment marched to the parade grounds where the boys gave three rousing cheers for Camp Alger and Colonel Foster. The band played "The Star Spangled Banner," the bugle corps sounded "Taps," in token of our farwell to camp. Then the band struck up "The girl I Left Behind Me," and the Sixth Illinois was off to the war, yelling and cheering like mad.

Leaving Camp Alger at six forty p. m., we marched to Dunn Loring, where we bivouaced under the trees until three o'clock the next morning when we boarded the cars for Charleston, S. C. We were not given sleeping cars this time, day coaches and box cars were loaded instead. At Alexandria we took the Atlantic Coast Line Ry. and continued on this line into Charleston.

We skirted the city of Richmond, Va., at nine fifteen a. m., passing through Battleboro, N. C., at two thirty p. m., and Fayetteville at four p. m., crossing the border

line between North and South Carolina at five thirty, arriving at Charleston at ten thirty p. m., making a very creditable run.

The country along the route was very thinly settled. Occasionally we would see a small straggling village and a few acres of cultivated land. Everything in the line of buildings looked very old. Two wheeled ox carts were numerous with negro drivers. Along the whole route we failed to notice one white man doing manual labor. Hogs, which looked as if they had been fitted for the race course instead of the pork barrel were running everywhere. We found a number of old gray-headed natives, (white) who did not appear to be overjoyed at sight of us, yet we met with kind treatment at every stopping place. The stars and stripes were floating in every town and settlement, the Cuban flag in many cases by its side.

Previous to our leaving Camp Alger the men detailed to duty at the division hospital returned to their respective regiments. Private Frank Kingery, of company I, followed the regiment to Charleston with the officers horses. While there he contracted typhoid fever and was seriously ill for some time. He was unable to join the company and it was some time after we had left the States that he recovered sufficiently to be removed to his home in Mendota. He was granted a furlough and reported to the company at Springfield immediately after the arrival of the regiment from its campaign in Porto Rico.

We lay in the cars at Charleston Wednesday night and until afternoon of the following day when we were given quarters under one of the numerous wharf-sheds which line the bay. The boys were soon in the water

bathing. Colonel Foster gave us unusual liberties and we were allowed to visit the city. We all felt that it might possibly be the last day on American soil for some time and we took advantage of the opportunity to the fullest. We found the citizens very friendly and they gave us the best of treatment.

While a party of volunteers was touring the city, they became acquainted with a resident of Charleston named I. W. Bicot. He was at that time senior member of the State Legislature. He said the people were very sorry that we were brought into the city so suddenly, as had they been aware of our coming they would have arranged to have made it more pleasant for us; as it was the city was ours while we remained.

He told us that they were not very well satisfied with the manner in which the War Department had treated the volunteers of the Southern States. He said their own troops were not yet equipped, and had no hopes of being ordered to the front for some time. Not one regiment from the South had been sent out. They claimed there was too much sectionalism shown and the northern troops received the preference.

The local papers had taken the matter up and the editorials were very bitter, one editor published a letter written by an old confederate soldier to a comrade who had served the so-called Confederacy in the sixties, asking if he intended to enlist as a volunteer in the war with Spain. In reply his comrade said he hardly thought he should; he could fix it up with the boys living, but if he should be killed in battle wearing the blue uniform and be called to another world, the old comrade who had given up his life while wearing the gray, would look at him and say,—"deserted, by G—d." This the editor said was



Leaving "God's Country." Boarding the Commodore Perry at Charleston, S. C.





showing the true spirit: every man should be willing to fight for his country, but he should also be true to his old comrade who died fighting by his side. We saw a confederate flag waving in a doorway and afterward on the street. The boys considered that the man who flaunted the emblem of a lost cause was undoubtedly a crank and let the circumstance pass unnoticed, although it caused a strong feeling of resentment to arise.

The streets are very narrow as are also the pavements. A great many of the residences are built of stone and very substantial, by far the most pretentious building in the city is the U. S. Custom House. Directly in front of this building lay the Spanish prize ship Rita. Out in the bay stands old Fort Sumter, and farther out to the left lies Fort Moultrie.

Down in the city, standing alone in the center of the church yard is the famous church of the St. Michaels: one of the oldest places of worship in this country. The pipe organ is one hundred forty years old,—the first one ever brought to America. The baptismal font is one hundred thirty two years old. The pulpit is a high covered pedestal sort of an affair reached by a stairway. On the side of the stair down near the floor can still be seen the mark where a Federal shell struck. The Memorial Tablet is in the front part of the church. It informs the tourist that the church was begun in 1752, opened for worship February first, 1761, exposed to the fire of the British artillery in 1780, struck four times by the Federal artillery 1862-63, nearly wrecked by a cyclone in 1885, almost destroyed by an earthquake in 1887, restored and reopened for worship June nineteenth, 1889. An interesting record for a house of worship.

The Yale and Columbia were out about twelve

miles, drawing too much water to enter the harbor. They were delayed in getting out by the roughness of the sea, they were coaling ship and the colliers could not work with the waves running so high. The soldiers passed the time by amusing themselves with the little pick-aninnies, who swarmed about the wharf in droves.

Friday, July eighth, the First battalion of our regiment, composed of companies E, I, A and F, and the battalion officers, boarded the ferry-boat, Commodore Perry at six thirty in the evening, which took us out to the awaiting vessels. Company A was put on board the Yale with the Sixth Mass., E, I and F going on the Columbia. Three hundred men, besides her crew, was all this boat could accomodate. General Miles and General Garrettson were on the Yale. Colonel Foster and staff, the second and third battalions and the band remained at Charleston, intending to follow us on the Rita within a day or so.

As we steamed out of the bay and down past Fort Sumter the boys cast wistful glances toward the receding shore. Darkness was soon upon us and waving a last farewell we bade good-bye to "God's Country." As we drew nearer the open sea the waves rolled higher and the little boat rocked and pitched until many of us landlubbers began to fear we would go to the bottom. The captain of the boat drove us first to one side and then the other, making human ballast of us in an effort to keep his craft right side up.

Long before we reached the boats out at sea, many of us were "feeding the fishes." To those who were unaffected by the tossing of the boat it was an amusing spectacle to walk into the passengers cabin and find the long rows of seats occupied by soldiers with their knees

resting on the cushion, their heads run through the open windows while they gazed intently into the briny deep. Now and then an apparently lifeless form would drop back onto the seat and a white and haggard face appear at the window: the countenance lighted by a sad, sweet smile, and after a moments silence, the sufferer appeared about to speak, when his mouth would close with a snap, his eyes begin to roll, the veins stand out like whip cords on his brow, and the head would duck out of the window, while the body was convulsed with a violent shudder, his legs would straighten out as though a vain effort was being made to force his feet through the plank floor or crowd his body out of the narrow window, and a weak voice would be heard repeating, "I want to get out and walk."

It was nearly ten o'clock that night when we reached the Yale. The transfer of company A to this boat was a comparatively easy matter as the ferry-boat pulled along side of it and planks were run over and the boys scrambled across. On account of the peculiar build of the Columbia the work of getting the three remaining companies aboard of her was more exciting and to the land troops it appeared rather a dangerous undertaking. The Columbia riding at anchor some distance from the ferry-boat sent out her whale boats and cutters manned by the vessels crew. These small crafts were pulled to the side of the ferry-boat and as the sea rose carrying the small boats up to within leaping distance the men jumped down into them. Then the wave would recede and the boat drop down a number of feet. With the approach of the next billow the trick would be repeated. Some times the excited soldier would make the leap at the moment the boat was taking a drop, or meet it coming up when the landing was rather severe and he would go sprawling

among the sailors much to their amusement. When a boat was loaded it was pulled away in the darkness and to the side of the Columbia and the men would scramble up the rope ladder to her deck to be hustled into the sailors quarters and out of the way of those that were to follow.

It was dark as pitch and the work was carried on by the aid of the brilliant glare of the Columbia's powerful search-light. As the cutter left the ferry-boat and was pulled toward the Columbia the rolling of the waves kept it hidden from view most of the time, and to those who were watching the work and awaiting their turn it looked like anything but a pleasant journey, but when once in the craft the feeling of dread disappeared as we saw the ease with which the old salts guided the frail craft on its course and kept it riding the waves like a duck. It was slow work and quite late when the last man crawled up the side of the Columbia and sought a place of rest.

The next morning we awoke to find ourselves out at sea, having weighed anchor at midnight, the Yale keeping within sight about ten miles out on our port side. The day passed away very quickly, the wonderful machinery, the large guns, torpedo tubes, and all keeping us very busy exploring. We were not slow to realize our good fortune in being placed on this magnificent vessel instead of an old dirty transport which had been carrying nothing but live stock for years.

The Columbia is a triple-screw, first class protected cruiser; the plates are five eighths of an inch in thickness and double; length two hundred twelve feet; breadth fifty eight feet; displacement seven thousand three hundred seventy five tons. On her trial trip she made twenty two knots per hour but since has made a record of twenty seven, making her one of the swiftest boats in the navy. Battery, one eight inch breech loading rifle, two



U. S. S. Columbia.



six inch and eight four inch, twelve six pounder and four one pounder rapid fire guns, four gatling guns and one three inch field piece. She also had four torpedo tubes with three torpedoes for each. There are eight mammoth double end boilers, making sixty four fires which can be built in an emergency, and three powerful engines of seven thousand horse-power each. She carried a crew of forty officers and four hundred twenty-nine men of which forty-five were marines, is lighted by electricity from stem to stern and has an ice machine which at that time was kept running night and day. She cost Uncle Sam two million seven hundred twenty five thousand dollars.

Captain Sands was in command of the vessel and the crew thought a great deal of him. As for the crew itself, it did everything possible to make us comfortable. Placing three hundred men on board a boat that had accommodations for the crew only, made it rather unpleasant but they gave up quarters and divided rations with us and did us many other favors, if they had not we would have fared rather poorly.

The sea was smooth and the vessel seemed as solid as a rock, the continual swish swash of the waves as they broke against her sides was about the only indication we had that we were on the wide sea as we rested in our quarters on the main deck. During the daytime the men spent their time on the upper or superstructure deck, securing protection from the broiling heat of the sun as best they may in the shadow of the mammoth smoke stacks, the gun shields and in and around the half dozen whale-boats and cutters which swung from the davits at the vessels side.

As the work of the sailors brought them towards our resting places we were driven before them, from one end of the vessel to the other and all around it. We



would be resting quietly on the upper deck when a bare-foot seamen would bellow out "get down below," after scrambling through the hatchways to the main deck and get comfortably located, another voice would command us to "go up above," a few moments after reaching the upper deck we were told to "get in the whale boats," and shortly we would be instructed to "get out of the boats." Thus the hours dragged on until darkness came when we would settle ourselves for the night and for a couple of hours listen to the tales of the jolly tars as they related their experiences in their many sea voyages.

Several ships were sighted on the voyage and both the Yale and Columbia would give chase, hoping to over-haul some Spanish vessel and secure it as a prize, but they were all flying the stars and stripes or the emblem of a neutral government. On the morning of July eleventh, we sighted land and found it was the eastern coast of Cuba. We steamed along the coast and about noon passed Guantanamo bay where the handful of marines had landed some days before and fought so bravely against great odds.

We soon sighted the hulls of several vessels ahead and all precautions were taken to prevent our running into a trap; the gunners were at their posts and everything made ready for a fight if they should prove to be unfriendly, but they were Uncle Sam's ships and we were soon among them. We arrived about three o'clock in the afternoon of July eleventh, just an hour after the last bombardment of Santiago had ceased. A slight indentation in the coast line indicated the entrance to Santiago harbor but we were too far distant to see more of this then famous place. On the eastern side of the entrance and situated on a prominent point old Morro Castle frowned down upon us.

For miles around us we could see man-of-war ships, cruisers, torpedo boats and transports. The Spanish lookout stationed at Morro Castle reported to his commander on that day he counted fifty-seven war ships and transports all flying the American flag within a radius of a few miles in the vicinity of Santiago harbor. Among them were New York, Brooklyn, Texas, Indiana, Oregon, Massachusetts, Iowa, Newark, Helena, Wilmington and the dynamite boat Vesuvius, also the hospital ship Solace, intermingling with the numerous transports and all cruising about and up and down the coast.

This was a pleasing sight for us land troops, cruising about not far from the shore, passing first one and then another of those wonderful fighting machines which had won such a glorious victory a week previous, the mountains looming up in the background dotted with white tents and buildings and within sight of Santiago harbor, the outer fortifications plainly discernable. We could hardly realize our position, so much that was new and deeply interesting having been crowded upon us in a short time.

Ten of the remaining companies of our regiment, the band and the colonel and his staff boarded the Rita at Charleston, Sunday, July tenth and arrived at Santiago the following Friday. Their voyage was not a pleasant one, as the vessel rolled and pitched throughout the trip and nearly every man aboard of her was seasick. Companies D and M followed on the transport, Duchesse.

## CHAPTER XV.

Immediately on our arrival at Santiago, General Miles sent a note to Admiral Sampson to the effect that it was his desire to land troops from the Yale, Columbia, and Duchesse to the west of the bay of Santiago harbor, and follow it up with additional troops, moving east against the Spanish troops defending Santiago on the west. He requested Admiral Sampson to designate the most available point for disembarking the troops, and render all of the assistance practicable as they moved east. Admiral Sampson then went on board the Yale and consulted General Miles, who told him he desired the co-operation of the Navy in the plan above stated. The admiral cordially acquiesced in the plan and offered every assistance of his fleet to cover the debarkation of the troops and also inflade the Spanish position with the guns of the ships.

General Miles then went ashore and the following morning opened communication with General Shafter, after which he gave directions to General Garrettsen to disembark all the troops on the Yale, Columbia, and other transports that were expected to arrive, viz, the Duchesse and Rita, whenever he should receive orders to do so. A note was directed to General Toral, commanding the Spanish forces, apprising him of the presence of the General commanding the American Army

and a meeting between the lines was arranged for at twelve o'clock noon the following day.

At the appointed time, General Miles and a portion of his staff, met General Toral and two of his staff officers and an interpreter. Negotiations for the surrender of General Toral's forces were carried on, the United States government to return his army to Spain. General Toral plead for time to communicate with his superiors. This was granted and he was given until twelve o'clock noon the following day to arrive at a decision.

General Henry, who had been placed in command of all the infantry and artillery then on transports, was instructed to be in readiness to disembark at noon, the following day, July fourteenth, at Cabanas. This included the Sixth Illinois regiment. On the morning of July fourteenth, Admiral Sampson's fleet was in position to cover the landing of the troops from the transports, about two and one half miles west of Santiago harbor, in case the Spanish should fail to surrender.

On meeting General Toral by appointment at twelve o'clock noon that day, he formally surrendered the troops of his army corps and division of Santiago to General Miles. General Henry was notified and as a portion of the army was infected with yellow fever it was determined not to land the troops on board the transports at that point but to run them back to Guantanamo bay and there take on coal and otherwise prepare the fleet for an early departure for Porto Rico.

The men on board continued in good health and few if any on the Columbia had been affected by seasickness. After the novelty of the situation had worn off we began to get anxious to get ashore. We had

prepared to land several times but each order was countermanded. It had rained every day since our arrival at Santiago, the sun coming out very bright and hot immediately afterward. The mountains wearing anything but an inviting aspect at these times, as a heavy fog enveloped everything on land. Many of the soldiers and sailors found sleeping quarters on the upper deck and in the dead of the night they would be awakened by a heavy downpour of rain and they would scramble down through the hatchways completely drenched.

The disappointment at not going ashore at Santiago left the men very low spirited. We had been drilling for months, all the while looking forward to the day when we should be among the victorious troops marching into the Spanish city. Now it looked as though we were to have the trouble for the pains as we had no idea whether we were to be sent to Porto Rico or returned home.

The inactivity was wearing on the men more than did the tedious work in the states. On the sixteenth of July our vessel steamed west to Guantanamo bay arriving in the early evening. We found a number of the boats that had been lying off Santiago had preceded us and some were already taking on a supply of coal from the coaling ships. As our boat stood bow on to shore, to the left and some distance inland we saw the wreck of a fortress the walls of which had been partially demolished by the guns of our vessels some time before.

The white tents of Camp McCalla stood on the crest of a hill not far from the shore. This was the quarters of the marines who landed from the Marblehead on the tenth of June. At the foot of the hill and extend-

ing out on the beach lay the Cuban camp which contained about two hundred soldiers, mostly black and from all indications they represented the worst class of natives on the island. They were indolent and appeared to wish for nothing more than to possess a comfortable hammock, a supply of tobacco and draw rations from Uncle Sams larder as often as possible.

The marines found but little use for them except as sentinels as they had been doing scout duty for years and were very alert besides they were acquainted with every nook and cranny on the island. Many of the marines came on board our vessel and some of them gave us a very graphic description of the three days battle which occurred following the landing of their men. Nearly every tent which they had put up was so riddled with Spanish bullets that they were but poor shelter during the heavy rains which occurred daily.

In the face of a continual fire the men had thrown up a rampart of gravel completely surrounding the camp which gave them a protection from the Mauser bullets and an opportunity to rest after the seige had been raised. Three graves in the center of the camp marked the last resting place of Surgeon Gribbs, a sergeant major and a private who fell early in the battle. Part way down the hill on the other side were the graves of three men who were instantly killed, while doing outpost duty, by a squad of seventeen Spaniards all of whom were afterwards killed with the lieutenant in command.

In the center of the camp was Colonel Huntington's headquarters, over which the stars and stripes were flying the first to float over Cuban soil. To the left was a small rapid firing gun, which discharged bullets at the rate of five hundred a minute. The Spaniards had a wholesome respect for this gun, and an officer, taken



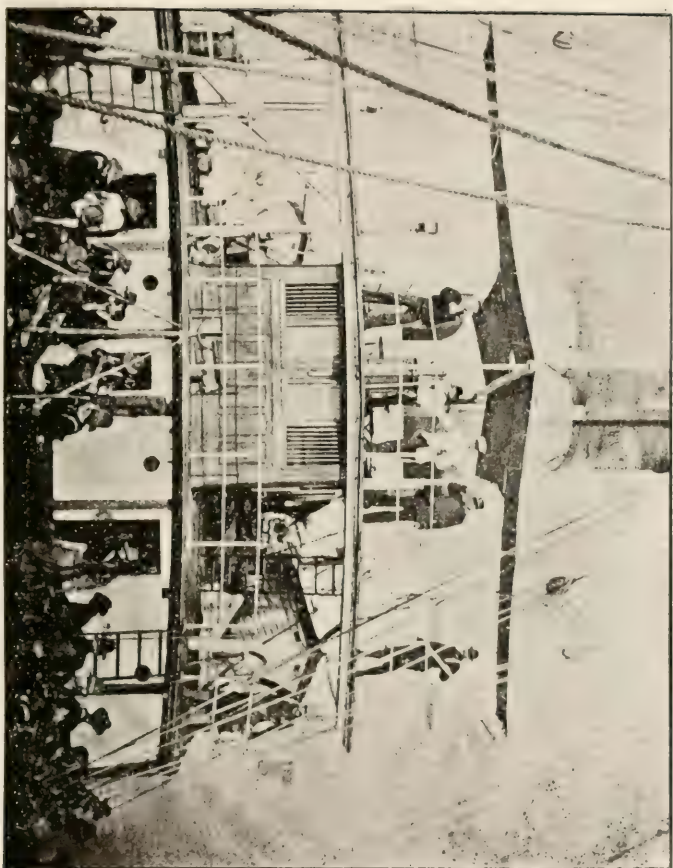
prisoner by our men, when asked if there was anything he would like done for him, said, nothing except he would like to see this gun. Several officers from the Columbia, including our company and battalion officers visited this camp also the Cuban camp and what they saw proved that the marines had been subjected to a severe fire, in an extremely exposed position and the indomitable courage of the marines in retaining the foothold established was quite evident.

Our rations while on the boat were not conducive to the health or comfort of the men. Fresh meat, or at least the boys said it was fresh because it was "alive", was sent to us almost daily. It came lashed to the whaleboat which brought it to us. We wondered at this as the surface of the bay was as calm as the waters of a mill-pond. It was hoisted on board and four expert sprinters from each company sent for, then the chase began.

That confounded meat just would not be caught; it flip-flapped about at a lively rate until finally cornered. After being captured and "killed" the meat was cut up into great hunks about a foot square and brought out along with a bushel of hard-tack, into which an empty tomato can was thrown, a little water poured over the mixture and the whole run down to the ships galley and placed over the fire a few moments. This they called hash, and it was doled out to the men with all the precaution that would have been taken had it been angel-food cake with a prize in every cutting.

About an hour after we had gotten on the outside of our portion of this first course, a pail would be run down to the galley, some coffee dumped in, filled with hot water and brought out to us. Then the fighting began and after crawling out of the mix-up we generally found





On board Spanish prize ship, "Rita," enroute to Santiago.



ourselves with a pint of coffee grounds and a tablespoonful of coffee.

At intervals during the day we would take up our belts a few notches; this we continued until nearly time to turn in for the night, then we would eat a few hard-tack drink a little water, lie quite still until the hard-tack began to swell, then slip the belt off quickly and fill up on water. This was necessary to keep the front side of the back from coming in contact with the back-bone while lying down.

"Music sounds the sweetest when on the moon-lit sea." The reality of this came to us with full force as we heard the rich, sweet notes of "The First Brigade March" come pealing across the water from the deck of the Rita which carried our band. As the music reached us, faintly at first but clear and distinct as the two vessels drifted nearer, a hush fell over the throng of idle soldiers and they eagerly drank in every sound until the position of the boats changed and the music died away in the distance. Then cheer after cheer went up from our boat. Drooping spirits were revived and it almost seemed that we were back again in the states. This was the first time we had heard our band since leaving Charleston and it had a wonderful effect on us all.

At night the scene in the bay was beautiful. The number of vessels had increased daily and during the latter part of our stay there the bay was nearly filled with boats. When all were lighted for the night it had the appearance of a miniature city, while the ever changing position of the boats gave us a panoramic view of the whole scene. As the bugle calls from the war vessels were sounded, first on one hand then the other, we imagined we were back in our quarters at Camp Alger, and we felt we were again soldiers.

For nearly three months previous to our boarding the Columbia for Cuba we had been accustomed to almost continual duty of some sort and bands and bugle corps were ever present. Since taking to the sea we had done nothing but scramble for something to eat and lay around, killing time as best we could. The monotony was telling on the men and they were anxious to be up and doing. They fully recognized the many perils which beset a soldier in the field, facing a wily enemy but this had been considered long before and they would gladly have taken the risk only to be on shore and do even a little actual service. They were fairly disgusted with the "coffee cooler" soldiering.

On the morning of the eighteenth, the crew made preparations for coaling ship. Volunteers were called for from among the soldiers on board but less than a half dozen men responded as none relished the idea of shoveling coal on an empty stomach. The following three days were occupied in coaling ship and they were horrible days,—dirt and coaldust over everything. It was but a short time until we were as dirty a lot of men as one cared to see, but we were rapidly becoming accustomed to accept anything that came along and say nothing.

Captain Sands wanted eighteen hundred tons of coal to fill the boat's bunkers but the supply was nearly exhausted and he was fortunate to secure six hundred tons: the vessel had something like three hundred tons when we arrived in the bay making a total of about nine hundred tons in her bunkers.

At noon, Thursday, July twenty-first, orders were received for the vessel to have steam up and everything in readiness to put out to sea at three o'clock that afternoon, and at four we steamed out of the harbor enroute for Porto Rico, the Massachusetts acting as flag ship,

leading the fleet which was composed of the Massachusetts, Columbia, Yale with General Miles, Henry and Garrettson on board, the Gloucester, a dispatch boat and nine transports heavily laden with troops, cavalry and artillery horses and light artillery.

With three thousand four hundred fifteen infantrymen and artillerymen, together with two companies of engineers and one company of the Signal Corps, with one hundred of this aggregate number of men sick, which reduced our effective force to about three thousand three hundred men, we moved on the Island of Porto Rico, at that time occupied by eight thousand two hundred thirty three Spanish regulars, and nine thousand one hundred seven volunteers. The objective point being San Juan, on the north-eastern coast of the island.

The Columbia acted as rear guard for the fleet and our course was necessarily much slower than when we made the run from Charleston to Cuba on account of having the slow moving transports in the fleet, eight, or at the best, nine knots per hour was the maximum speed during the journey. On the second night out we were joined by the cruiser Dixie.

Just the slightest ripple of excitement was caused on board our boat before a signal was sent out by the Dixie making herself known. The Columbia was some distance in the rear of the fleet when a light was seen approaching the stern of our vessel. The Dixie was expected to join us in this vicinity but nothing could be seen to determine the nature of the approaching vessel other than the light which gradually drew nearer us. High up on the mast the Columbia's signal lights flashed the Dixie's call "D" but could get no response, a sailor picked up a hand electric lantern and stepping to

the stern of our boat made an attempt to get a reply to his signals but all to no purpose.

The peculiar actions of the crew of the vessel following us gave Captain Sands cause for suspicion that all was not right and he changed the course of the Columbia, making a loop and coming down close to the suspicious craft and again flashed the signal "D", this time receiving a reply that apparently satisfied him and we came around onto the direct course once more. As daylight came we saw the Dixie was among the vessels of the fleet and then understood the actions of the boats the night before.

We steamed through the Windward Passage in a northeasterly course, not losing sight of land until nearly to our destination. The Islands of Cuba and Hayti appearing not more than ten miles apart yet they are nearly fifty. On the morning of the twenty-second the Columbia was signaled to report to General Miles as he wished to send a cablegram to Washington, and she being the swiftest vessel in the fleet was selected for that purpose. An officer was sent on board the Yale and received the dispatch; then our vessel was headed for Mole St. Nicholas, on the eastern coast of Hayti, arriving there about eleven thirty a. m. A cutter was sent ashore to the cable station, returning immediately. The soldiers were ordered to remain below and keep out of sight but a half dozen of us managed to find a secluded place and remained on deck and with the aid of a small field glass an excellent view of the bay and island was had. The town appeared as almost nothing; a few houses and an old fortress was all we could see. The French flag was flying over nearly every house, also over the cable station. Returning we left the bay about twelve o'clock noon, and



caught the fleet in the middle of the afternoon. The coasts of Cuba, Hayti and Porto Rico are lined with mountains and looked anything but inviting to the Illinois boys who were accustomed to the broad prairies of their native state.

We held the original course of east by north until the morning of the twenty-fourth, when General Miles changed his plans and directed the fleet to change its course and make Port Guanica, on the southwestern coast of the island its destination. General Miles, after consulting with Cap't Higginson of the Massachusetts, decided that the Spanish government must certainly be aware of his intentions to land troops at San Juan and it would accordingly mobilize its forces at that point. He learned that a very desirable landing place could be secured at Port Guanica and later at Port Ponce and in all probability would meet with but little opposition.

The Dixie was sent on to San Juan to notify all vessels expected to arrive there of the change in the original plans. That night we sailed through the Mona Passage without lights and silently we neared the goal. The following morning we were on the Caribbean Sea close to land and about nine thirty the Gloucester entered the harbor of Port Guanica, throwing shells from a six pound gun into the hills and scattering the few Spanish soldiers stationed there. The Columbia could not get close in as she drew too much water and we were once more loaded into the ships whale boats and cutters and towed a mile and a half to the landing.



## CHAPTER XVI.

About ten o'clock on the morning of July twenty-fifth company E landed at Guanica, closely followed by fifteen men of company I. A company of marines from the Gloucester was the first American troops to land on Porto Rican soil. These men had a brush with the few Spanish soldiers that remained in the vicinity driving them back into the hills where the six pounders fired from the Gloucester had forced the larger portion of the enemy early in the day. The marines hoisted the stars and stripes and shortly returned to their vessel. Following them came a division of the First Illinois Engineer Corps, then company E and the fifteen men of company I, with Major Channon in command on shore.

When we arrived in the village there was not a native or Spaniard in sight. They had completely deserted the town. We were not allowed to approach any of the buildings but were formed in the center of the narrow street and held there for a short time awaiting Major Channons orders. The town in main consisted of one street running north to the foot of the hills which surrounded the bay. A few comfortable dwellings and summer homes of the more wealthy of the residents of the vicinity bordered the narrow street with here and there a general store building, the village itself terminating in cluster of thatched huts about three quarters

of a mile from the beach.

Surrounding the village was a level plain which ran back from the beach about a mile. On the north and east the hills or mountains rose to a considerable height while on the west the bay ran back several hundred rods and close up to the foot of the hills. Directly north of the landing the hills were separated by a beautiful valley about a mile in width which wound back into the island for several miles. The one street of the town led directly to the southern entrance of this valley and it was here that the Spaniards and natives retreated on the approach of the American troops.

Company E was divided into two platoons and sent to the hills to the east to establish an outpost guard line under command of Capt. Lawrie and Lieut. Wahl respectively. The fifteen men of company I, under command of Serg't Weaver were ordered to take a position on the summit of a high hill about a mile to the south and west of the town, there to be joined by the remainder of the company as soon as they came on shore. Major Channon instructed the men to keep their rifles loaded and in readiness for instant action and to take no chances whatever.

Arriving at the foot of the hills we found we had a difficult climb before us as the cactus plant, which grows there as large as our fruit trees, were very thick from the base of the hill to the summit. Many other small trees and shrubbery grew so dense it was impossible to see more than a dozen feet in advance, while the hills had every indication of being the result of some gigantic upheaval caused by volcanic eruptions in years past. Great irregular pieces of stone, honey-combed to the depth of half an inch, the outer surface covered with fine, projecting points of stone as sharp as a knife

blade and as hard as steel, were thrown up in apparently insurmountable masses.

Company E took its position and remained there until five o'clock in the evening, when they were relieved by company A. During their stay on out-post the boys of company E explored the locality thoroughly but found no indication of the enemy. After returning to the landing they pitched their shelter tents on the grassy plain a few rods back from the bay and were placed on duty unloading baggage and supplies from the Rita.

Five of the handful of men of company I made the ascent of the hill where they were to take a position and establish a point of observation, arriving on the summit nothing could be seen in either direction. The cactus plants, shrubbery and large stone were so thick that it was impossible to find a place large enough to pitch a shelter tent in that neighborhood. After a long search a large rock was found projecting far out over the hill side and clear of the brush. Crawling out on this an excellent view of the plain below and the valley stretching away to the north could be had.

The scene was a beautiful one. It was the noon hour and the sun was shining brightly. Everything was green and refreshing. Down the narrow valley small farms were laid out and the crops appeared to be in excellent condition, the hills jutting out here and there formed dark recesses where the sunlight faded into a gloom and the shaded green of the foliage appeared to extend a welcoming hand to the invading soldiers, beckoning them in, there to find protection from the burning heat of the sun. But as far as the eye could reach not a living being was in sight. Peace and quietness reigned over the whole valley and on first thought



First Camp near landing at Guanica, Porto Rico.



it seemed criminal to throw this beautiful land into the turmoil of war.

Turning about and looking toward the sea an entirely different scene presented itself. Out on the open water the lead colored hulls of the war vessels stood out in bold relief, the uncovered guns directed shoreward prepared to throw a storm of shells into the ranks of the enemy, should they develop in formidable numbers. Close into shore the many transports were busily engaged unloading their cargoes. Much of the work had already been accomplished and white tents dotted the plain while the battery of artillery was getting its guns in readiness to limber up at a moments notice.

The position taken by the men on the summit seeming untenable, a report of the situation was made to Major Channon and he ordered them to the plain below, where they were soon joined by the remainder of the company. The men were immediately placed on out-post duty, the second platoon, under command of Lieut. Lawton was placed on the extreme left and along the main road which led to San German, with the wooded hill on the one side and the waters of the bay running up close on the other. The last out-post to the left was stationed fully two miles from the camp on the beach. Capt. Colebaugh, with the first platoon extended his line in toward the camp and was joined on the right by company F. Farther to the right company G of Dixon, was on out-post duty between the left of company A and the right of company F.

As the day wore on several natives were captured and brought into camp. They were very much excited and more than half expected the Americans would put them to death as they had been made to believe this by the Spanish soldiers who had so recently fled. The



natives were made to understand that no harm would befall them if they would return to their homes and remain quiet. The glad tidings soon spread to the mountains and they began to come in from all directions. They were quite timid at first but soon overcame their fears and in a short time they were mingling with the soldiers apparently perfectly satisfied with the turn affairs had taken. Of course we could not understand a word of their language, nor they ours, but by signs and motions we made fair headway and usually made them understand what was wanted. One of the first things they learned was that we were completely out of tobacco, and for several days after our arrival when a native met a soldier he would come to a halt several paces from him and if he had any tobacco, cigars or cigarettes he would produce them as a peace offering, but should he be so unfortunate as to not have any of these articles he would strike each pocket in turn to show it was empty, throw both hands out before him and repeat "No I, No I," meaning he had none and look appealingly at us fearing we would do him harm because he could not pay us tribute. Some one of the boys would step toward him and in a threatening manner tell him he must be a Spaniard, the native would turn pale and tremblingly exclaim, "Spanolia, No! No! America, Porto Rico."

We knew there had been but few Spanish soldiers in the village but we were told by the natives that there were several hundred lurking in the hills near us and we did not know what moment they might steal upon us and open fire. The underbrush and shrubbery was so thick they could have approached us without much fear of detection. We had no dinner and the provisions did not get out to us until after dark; then



we were not allowed to build fires to make coffee, but we enjoyed it nevertheless as we were in actual service then and felt that we were soldiers in every respect.

We sat around the box of hardtack and ate keeping as quiet as possible, our guards were posted along the public highway and partly up the mountain side. It was not long until the boys began to take snap shots along the line. There were a number of cattle running through the timber and we had been cautioned to beware of the mooing of cows, barking of dogs and hooting of owls, as these were Spanish signals. This made us suspicious of every sound and the consequences were the boys fired at imaginary Spaniards quite frequently.

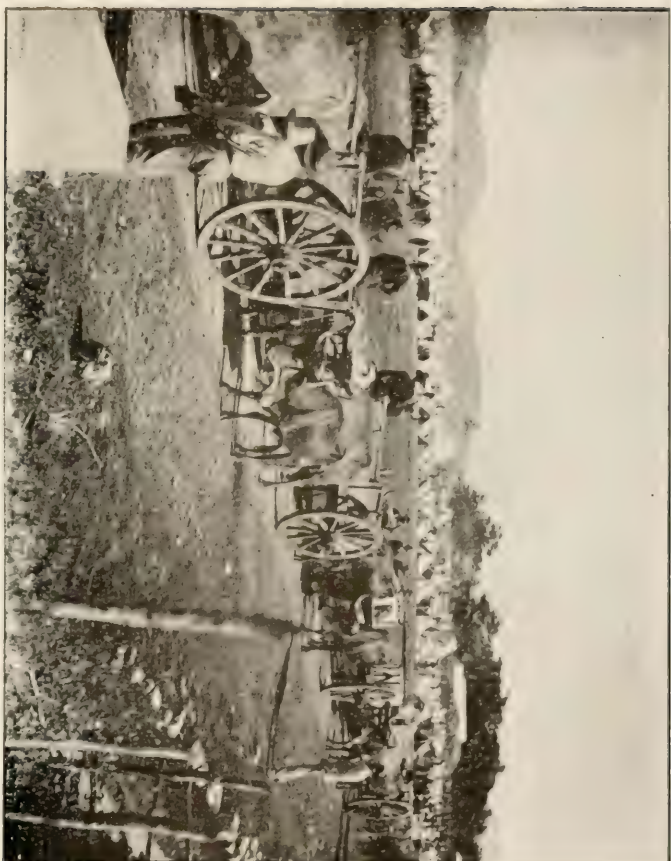
The enemy was not far distant as we found before daylight. The bullets kept zipping around and over us and in the morning we picked up some of the spent bullets which had dropped in our camp. Whenever a shot was fired every man was wide awake with his rifle ready for instant action: the moon shone brightly and the relief guards were more or less exposed throughout the night. The natives continued to straggle in long after dark and it was a miracle that some of them were not shot as they did not appear to recognize the challenge of a sentinel as a command to halt but more as a greeting and they would walk straight ahead. The sentinels hardly knew what action to take. They knew there were Spanish soldiers in the vicinity but they doubted their having the courage to come forward so boldly; they also knew there were any number of harmless natives yet in the mountains and they did not wish to have the blood of an innocent man on their hands. There was but one alternative and that was to be prepared for instant action upon the first sign of treachery

and allow them to pass the lines. The actions of the Americans in this matter went a long way toward quieting the fears of the natives and gave them a feeling of safety which made them our friends.

During the early hours of the morning, company G was attacked by the Spanish. As this was the only instance where our regiment clashed with the enemy, the report of this skirmish, given in the words of General Garrettson, follows.

"At about six p. m. a report was sent in from this outpost that the enemy in considerable numbers had been discovered. I sent out two companies of the Sixth Massachusetts as a reserve.

During the night the enemy opened fire on the outposts, and their commander sent in a report, which arrived in camp at two a. m., July twenty-sixth, that an attack was expected. At three a. m., I, with my staff and Major W. C. Hayes, First Ohio Cavalry, and five companies of the Sixth Massachusetts, left camp for the outpost on the Yauco road. The command arrived there shortly before daylight, at about four thirty o'clock. From the reports of the outposts the enemy was supposed to be in a field to the right of the road to Yauco. Packs were thrown off and the command formed for an attack. The company of Sixth Illinois(G) remained on the hill and protected our right flank. The remaining companies were collected, two as support and three as reserve. After advancing to within two hundred yards of the plain of the hacienda Santa Decideria, the advance guard of our attacking force was discovered by the enemy, who opened fire from a position on the hill to the west. The north and east slopes of this hill intersect each other, forming a solid angle. It was along this angle that the enemy was posted. Their reserve, posted in a road leading from the hacienda to the east, also opened a strong fire on the road. A body of the enemy moved against the company on our right(G, Sixth Illinois),



Second camp at Guanica



stationed on the hill of Ventura Quinones. This company had intrenched themselves during the night, and after repulsing the attacking force, directed their fire against the enemy on the hill to the west.

The conformation of the ground was such that the fire of the enemy's reserves and party on the left was effective in the seemingly secure hollow in which our reserves were posted. The heavy volume of fire, the noise of shots striking the trees and on the ground, and the wounding of two men among the reserves caused a momentary confusion among the troops. They were quickly rallied and placed under cover. The fire of the advance party and supports was directed against the party of the enemy on the hill, and temporarily silenced their fire from that direction.

Our advance guard of two companies, ignoring the enemy on the hill, then deployed mainly to the right of the road, and were led with quick and accurate military judgement and great personal gallantry, by Lieutenant Langhorne, First Cavalry, aid, against the reserves of the enemy. The supports and one company of reserves, under the direction of Captain L. G. Berry, charged against the party on the west of the hill, through the barbed-wire fence and chaparral. The reserves were deployed along the barbed-wire fence running at right angles to the road, conducted through the fence, and brought up in the rear and to the left of the attacking party conducted by Lieutenant B. Ames, adjutant, Sixth Massachusetts. The enemy were driven from the hill and retired to the valley, disappearing behind the hacienda. The reserves of the enemy ceased firing and retired. It was supposed that they had retired to the hacienda, as this house was surrounded on the sides presented to our view, with loopholed walls. The troops on the hill were collected along the road. A reserve of three companies was established at the intersection of the road and the main road to Yauco. The two companies in advance, which were deployed, wheeled to the left and advanced through the cornfield



to our right. The remainder of the command deployed and advanced to the hacienda, enveloping it on the left. It was then discovered that the enemy had retired from the hacienda in the direction of Yauco, along cleverly concealed lines of retreat.

As the object of the expedition was considered accomplished, and in obedience to instructions received from Major-General Miles, no further pursuit was undertaken.

The battalion of recruits of the Regular Army, under Captain Hubert, reported for orders, having heard the firing, but were not needed and returned to camp.

The force of the enemy engaged in the battle consisted of Battalion twenty-five, Patria, of the Spanish Army, and some volunteers, in all about six or seven hundred men.

The casualties on our side were four slightly wounded, all of the Sixth Massachusetts. After the occupation of Yauco the casualties of the enemy were found to have been, one lieutenant and one cornet killed, eighteen seriously and thirty-two slightly wounded.

After the confusion resulting from the first unexpected fire, the conduct of the troops was excellent. They were speedily rallied, and afterward obeyed orders given through my staff officers without hesitation.

The following officers of the command are especially commended for gallantry and coolness under fire: Major C. K. Darling, Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers; Captain F. J. Gihon, Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, who was painfully wounded early in the action, and remained in command of his company until it reached camp; Captain L. G. Berry, assistant adjutant-general volunteers; Lieutenant G. T. Langhorne, aid; Lieutenant G. M. Wright, aid; Major W. C. Hayes, acting aid; Major Geo. W. Crile, brigade surgeon, and Major Frank Anthony surgeon Sixth Illinois Volunteers, were present under fire with hospital attendants and rendered necessary aid to the wounded."

During the early part of the engagement, Major

Anthony, who with the hospital corps was quick to respond to a call to the front probably saved the Massachusetts boys from having a large number of their men cut down by the withering fire of the Spanish which was poured in on them after the Dons had located General Garrettson's troops. The major was not far distant when the first volley of the enemy wounded two of the Massachusetts boys. They were formed in a solid column and remained huddled together, apparently having lost their heads for the moment, when Major Anthony rushed among them and with voice and gesture urged the men to scatter out which they did. Had they remained in close ranks a well aimed volley from the enemy would have wrought havoc in their ranks.

After the skirmish was over the major and his corps of assistants rendered the wounded Spanish all the medical assistance possible, the fact that they were our enemies being entirely forgotten by the big hearted major.

This skirmish caused considerable excitement in camp as well as among the men who were scattered among the hills and brush doing outpost duty. The fact that we were possible targets for Spanish marksmen gave us a creeping chilly feeling, as we were in the open where the enemy could steal upon us, fire a volley or more and get back in the underbrush into comparative safety before we could form for defence or an attack. During the night the powerful searchlights of the boats lying in the harbor swept the hills and mountain sides quite frequently. This no doubt restrained the Spanish soldiers from venturing too near our picket lines.

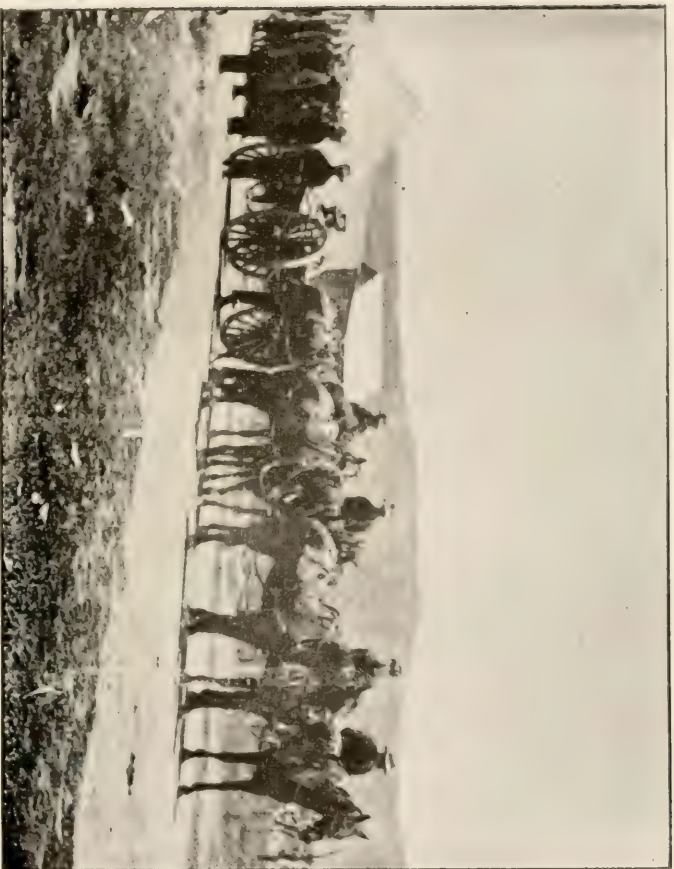
During the first twenty-four hours of outpost duty company I's guard headquarters were established at the



very entrance of the village graveyard. It was rather a grewsome place as nearly all of the boys had explored the small enclosure during the day and visions of the white wooden crosses and the larger shafts, built of brick or stone and covered with a coating of white lime, floated before their eyes ever and anon during the lonely watch throughout the night.

The next morning we were privileged to build small fires and searching everywhere we could find nothing that would burn excepting a couple of decayed burial cases which lay in one corner of the graveyard. They had either been in the ground for some time or were very old as they all but dropped in pieces when we attempted to carry them out. We concluded it must be the latter as during our stay on the island we witnessed several burials and in not one instance was the casket interred. The body was taken out and placed in the ground without the box. We did not wait to decide the question but hurriedly broke them up and soon had a bright fire burning merrily.

The afternoon of the second day following the landing at Guanica occurred the first burial of an American soldier in Porto Rico. One of the Massachusetts boys had breathed his last on board one of the boats which lay in the harbor. His body was wrapped in the folds of the starry banner which had lured him to his untimely death, placed on an artillery caisson, which was drawn by six horses; by the side of the heavy carriage marched an escort of infantrymen, his comrades. Then the silent march to the little graveyard was taken up where the body, from which the soul had winged its flight, was interred, a volley was fired over the newly made grave, the company bugler sounded "taps", and the little procession turned sadly away wending its way slowly back



Funeral cortege of a private of the Sixth Mass., the first U. S. soldier buried  
in Porto Rico.



to camp. Before the troops left this camp, private Aberg of company F was buried by the side of the Massachusetts soldier.

The second day company I was ordered farther out and we marched a couple of miles to the west where a new picket line was established. This position was considered too much exposed and in the afternoon we were returned about a half mile towards camp where we remained on duty all night and until afternoon of the following day when we were relieved and returned to the general camp at the landing. During our fifty-two hours of picket duty there had been but little opportunity to sleep and but few of the boys would have taken advantage of it had there been. When we arrived in camp and had our shelter tents up we sought the much needed rest and retired early.

The boys of company E were detailed to general duty, building bridges and unloading ammunition, etc., on the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh. On the morning of the skirmish previously mentioned, the company went out to the scene but did not participate in the engagement. On the afternoon of the twenty-eighth the company went out on outpost duty for twenty-four hours. The men were posted along the main road at intervals, covering more than a mile of the outer picket line, and were about a mile and a half from camp. The duty performed was a repetition of that of the guards of the previous day. The feeling of apprehension which naturally affected the men during the first hours of their presence in the enemy's country had gradually worn off and the long hours of guard duty were made more pleasant by the rising spirits of the boys and they whiled the time away with joke and repartee yet ever on the alert. Some scattered shots were heard during the night but

nothing occurred to cause alarm. They fought the mosquitoes until relieved the next day.

Down at the camp we found the remainder of our regiment. The boys who came in on the Rita related their experiences and pronounced that vessel an old tub not fit for a river boat. Serg't Cushman had met with an accident while at sea which resulted in the amputation of a portion of one of his fingers. The band boys were all there and living high, the result of their foraging. They appeared to enjoy the situation and spent the most of their time in scouting.

Privates Sneed, Bert Johnson and Frank Aument of company E were on board the Lampassas, which was lying in the harbor of Guanica. Aument was sick and Sneed and Johnson were detailed to assist the nurses on the boat on its trip to Fort Monroe where the invalid soldiers were to be nursed back to health. The boat sailed first to Port Ponce leaving there July thirty-first. On the eighth of August the patients were taken to the fort and Sneed and Johnson received a thirty day furlough going directly to their homes. Aument remained at the hospital in the fort.

On the twenty-eighth we broke camp and pitched our tents on a low level piece of ground about half a mile to the north and east of the original camp.

July twenty-seventh, Major General Wilson arrived in the harbor of Guanica with General Ernst's brigade. The same day Commander Davis of the Dixie entered the port of Ponce and found that it was neither fortified nor mined. The next morning the fleet and transports, with General Wilson's command, moved into the harbor of Port Ponce. The troops disembarked and marched into the city of Ponce, a distance of two miles, taking possession of the city and adjacent country, the Spanish

troops withdrawing on the military road to San Juan, and our troops were pushed well forward in that direction. In the meantime General Henry's command, of which we formed a part had been directed to proceed to Ponce.

## CHAPTER XVII.

Major Clarke with two companies of his battalion was selected as an advance guard of General Henry's troops in their march to Ponce. He left camp in the afternoon of July twenty-eighth. Ten men from each company of the first battalion, with a few others from our regiment, under command of Lieut. E. L. Phillippo, of the Sixth Cavalry, and Lieut. Geo. M. Gould, of company F, Sixth Illinois, the whole command under the direction of Major W. C. Hayes, First Ohio Cavalry, with three days rations and one hundred rounds of ammunition, were ordered to proceed to Talaboa, about half way between Guanica and Ponce, where it was reported the Spanish had concealed, or on cars, a considerable number of Mauser rifles with a supply of ammunition. This force was to capture these supplies and return them to Guanica, or destroy them.

This detachment was to receive mounts and proceed with all speed possible. After a long wait, the horses, which were to have been sent into camp by alcalde of Yauco, but which never came, the start was made about five o'clock in the evening. Every one was anxious to be among the number selected for this expedition and those who were fortunate in this respect felt highly elated as they expected they would have a brush with the Spanish, and as they were given to un-





Porto Rican belles.



derstand the men were to be mounted they anticipated a rather lively experience. When they were informed they would make the march on foot they were sadly disappointed but left the camp and regiment in a happy mood. They were dubbed "Gould's Rough Riders."

The expedition overtook Major Clarke's command on the outskirts of Yauco and together they entered the city. Their entry into the town was hailed with delight by the citizens. In fact a more enthusiastic welcome was never given to any body of troops. The streets of the village were lined with the inhabitants, who indulged in vivas to the American Republic, the President of the United States, and the American soldiers. This reception was repeated at every town and village where the troops entered. Major Hayes and staff, proceeded to Tallaboa, in company with General Stone, who had come from Ponce to Tallaboa that afternoon in command of a small detachment and a telegraph corps. On their arrival they found the sidetracks empty and after a thorough inquiry concluded there were no supplies in that vicinity and the major returned to Yauco, where he found the fifty men of his command encamped.

Arrangements were made for the formal raising of the American flag over the residence of the alcalde the following day. The citizens were somewhat awed by the military at first, and there was absolute silence while the military presented arms and the colors were raised; and not until the close of the proclamation by the alcalde was there any demonstration on their part, when, without a note of warning, a volunteer band struck up an inspiring strain and all of the citizens joined in vivas to the United States, to the President.

to the American soldiers, and to the city of Yauco, in the United States of America.

On the morning of July thirtieth, General Henry's division broke camp at eight-thirty and began the march to Ponce. It had rained heavily the day previous and in many places the roads were in bad condition. The boys made the start with long swinging strides but were brought down to a more moderate pace after covering a few miles. The heat was not so intense, that is, the mercury did not register anything astonishing but there was a thin vapor rising from the damp earth which made the men feel as though they were broiling. We soon began to feel the effects of being cooped

up on board the boats for nearly three weeks without exercise. Had we been thrown into this country without loss of time after our training at Camp Alger, we would not have been so easily overcome with the heat.

We arrived at Yauco shortly after noon and camped on the bank of a swift brook. In passing through the town we had met with a very cordial welcome by the citizens. We found the "Rough Riders," and Major Clarke's command encamped on a hill to the left of the spot designated as our camping ground.

Previous to leaving Guanica each company had been given a number of bullock carts in charge of native drivers to transport rations and a supply of ammunition. These carts were huge two wheeled affairs and were drawn by from one to three pairs of bullocks. The animals were fine looking specimens of bovines, being large, with wide spreading horns and usually very gentle. The yoke was an uncouth affair hewn from some species of hard wood. It was strapped to the horns on top of the animals head, the draft of the loaded cart

coming directly on the horns. There were something like one hundred of these "Army wagons" attached to our command. They were behind the troops and did not arrive in camp until late and we got nothing to eat before dark. We had not been allowed to stop for mess at noon consequently we were feeling rather lank when we finally drew our rations.

From this time on we were illy fed. We were issued fresh beef nearly every day for a time, but it was in such condition it was unfit to eat. They would run the animals for half an hour before being able to catch them, shoot them down the moment they got them back to quarters, and cut them up before they were fairly dead, and the meat would be on the fire in less than an hour from the time they were shot. We were compelled to eat this or go without and to this cause we could trace the beginning of many a case of sickness.

In the camp we found the ground alive with centipedes, and in some cases the boys would not lie down for fear of getting stung. An English speaking native informed us that the female sting alone was fatal, and then during a certain period only. The natives were deathly afraid of them, and as a rule they were barefooted and would jump at the sight of one, getting as far away as possible. We found the wicked little things in every camp along the coast, but on getting farther inland they disappeared. While encamped at Yauco the guards captured a Spanish soldier. When brought into camp he carried a Springfield rifle such as our troops were then equipped with, wore the regulation U. S. blue shirt and about his waist was strapped a web cartridge belt of the U. S. manufacture. The prisoner acted rather queer and his being in possession of a portion of an American soldier's outfit had a suspicious look. General

Garrettson was sent for and he asked the fellow if he was not a Spanish soldier. He fell on his knees and replied "No, no; Americano, Americano." It was pitiful to see him grovel in the dirt at the general's feet. He kissed his hands, his shoes and the ground he trod on; he stood up and hugged the boys about him, kissing their hands and all the time repeating, "Americano, Americano." This was the reply we inevitable received from everyone if we asked if they were not Spanish. The prisoner appeared to be nearly famished and indicated by signs that he had been living on roots and fruits. He was taken to the hospital and we afterward learned he no sooner found himself among friends, as there were some fifty wounded and sick Spanish soldiers in the hospital, than he revived immediately and in all probability laughed in his sleeve over the smooth trick he had played on the Americano soldiers.

The battery of artillery came into camp behind us and crossed the creek to the flat beyond where they remained that night. In coming in, their field pieces had almost slid down the steep embankment before crossing the stream. The next morning, (Sunday), before breaking camp the men of the battery worked with pick and shovel for some time reducing the abruptness of the climb so as to make it possible to drag their pieces out to the main road. After all was in readiness for the start, the men took their places, and the stream was crossed at a gallop; up the hill they tore, the men riding the pieces hanging on for dear life. If they appeared to make the start to slow a mounted officer, stationed on the opposite side of the stream and half way up the hill would roar some unintelligable command to the drivers and they would goad their horses on with whip and spur. After all were over we fell in behind them and continued



the march toward Ponce. The day before, the Sixth Illinois was in the advance followed by the artillery, the Massachusetts boys bringing up the rear. The second and third days the position of the regiments were reversed and we brought up the rear.

We passed through several small straggling villages and in the middle of the afternoon went into camp. To get to the camp we were marched nearly a mile to the left of the direct route and crossed two streams before halting. Here the boys began to be troubled with blistered feet. There were no bridges over these streams and although they were nearly all quite shallow and easily forded, wading through the water left the man with shoes and leggins thoroughly soaked; the mountain roads were covered with a sort of lime stone made hot by the sun and in a short time a large number of stragglers were scattered along the route.

That night we dined on fruit, the wagon train coming in late again. Half ripe bananas fried in grease was considered a treat although they were lacking in nourishment. Before leaving Guanica each man had been issued one hundred rounds of ammunition; the cartridge belt carried about half this number the remainder being put in the haversacks. This additional weight pulling over the shoulder wearied the men considerable. At the beginning of the march every man carried one half of a shelter tent with pole and stakes, a rubber poncho, gun, belt and bayonet, besides an extra shirt or two, a change of socks, and underwear, ablouse, a meat plate, knife, fork and spoon and whatever personal articles he had collected and desired to retain. A canteen of water completed the outfit.

When we had been two days on the march a rather decided change was manifest as to what was necessary



for a soldier to "tote." Ammunition was thrown away by the box; clothing was scattered along the whole route, while here and there some weary soldier's-half-of-a-shelter or "pup" tent would be found. Some even went so far as to cast their bayonets in the brush by the roadside, anything to lighten the weight which grew heavier and more troublesome with each mile.

The second night out found the majority of the boys with wardrobes very much depleted, those who had retained their tents sharing with the comrades who had "lost" their own during the day. At nine o'clock in the evening we were unexpectedly ordered to fall in for inspection of ammunition, and there were few men in the regiment who could produce the one hundred rounds or one half of it. We were informed that the shortage would be charged to the men but our informant was evidently a joker as we escaped the expected penalty.

Breaking camp the next morning we recrossed the two streams which we had forded the night before, and started on the final march to Ponce. Forging the streams at the commencement of the days march aggravated the already tender feet of the men and in a short time they were in a deplorable condition. We had not seen an ambulance, and no one was allowed to ride on the overloaded ox carts. The straggling became general and when the regiment marched through the city of Ponce and out to the camp grounds a mile beyond there were but few men in line.

We were kept moving for hours without a moments rest and this in a climate entirely strange to probably every man in the division. On passing through some of the mountain trails, Old Sol would shoot his darting rays down upon us and not a breath of air stir-

ring; the burning heat at these places almost suffocated the men and it seemed we were at the very maw of a mammoth furnace which we might enter at the next step. We had been extremely anxious to get into active service and here we were but we failed to notice any expressions of great joy on the countenances of the weary soldiers.

Straggling into Ponce we found every eating house in the city crowded with hungry soldiers. Upon entering and taking a seat at one of the numerous tables we looked in vain for the waiters. They had dished up everything in the house to the early comers and taken refuge in some remote part of the building, badly scared by the presence of so many "Americanos." In one of the houses we did manage to get a loaf of bread and a couple of eggs.

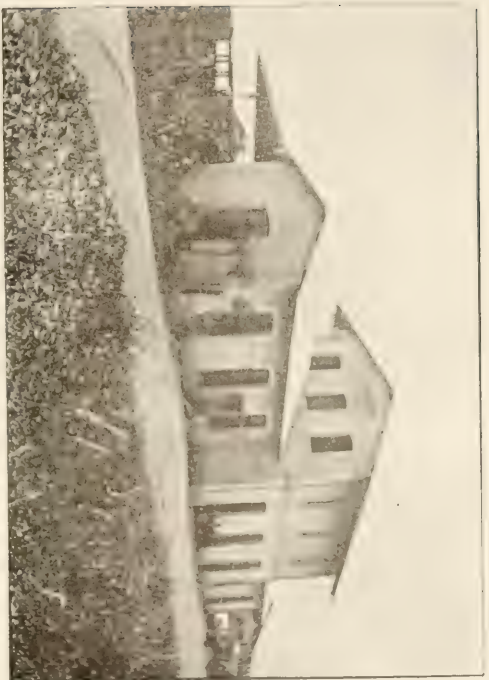
The diminutive proprietor was nearly wild, half a hundred men all yelling for something to eat and cursing the waiters for a stupid lot. The little fellow would start for the kitchen when he would be stopped by a six foot soldier who demanded something to eat. Throwing up his hands and attempting to back away he repeated over and over "D - -n you, cant you wait," This was in all probability the extent of his knowledge of the English language and more than likely he had heard some of the boys repeat it but did not know its meaning.

After waiting some time we came to the conclusion there was nothing more to be had and tossing an American dollar into the outstretched hand of the proprietor, we picked up our belongings and prepared to get out as soon as we received our change. The little man had disappeared and after a long wait he was hunted up and

requested to return at least a portion of the dollar which was worth two of their own coins of like denomination. To all of our entreaties we received the same reply, "No compr-r-r-ehendo." He did not understand English. With but little hesitation we began an argument with him, which he, as dumb as he was, could not fail to understand.

About this time a provost guard, one of the Massachusetts boys, rushed into the place and ordered us to move on. We were alone with the trembling but defiant native and the scarcity of money gave us sufficient reason why we should not allow him to rob us in such a manner. After explaining matters to the guard he volunteered to assist us and remarked "We'll get the change or have satisfaction." Just then a negro stepped in. He was as black as ebony and a shock of wooly hair stuck out from beneath a high crowned, wide brimmed straw hat. Good nature beamed from his smiling face and coming directly toward us, he spoke in perfect English, inquiring the cause of the disturbance. Upon hearing our story he turned to the native and said a few words in Spanish, whereupon the dwarf took an American half dollar from his pocket and gave it to us. We were satisfied to let matters go at that and thanking the provo and the darkey, we left the place.

We were but fairly on the outside of the building when along came a patrol of drunken soldiers who were ordering the stragglers into a column of fours, all the while swearing, and cursing the men like a pirate captain. A squad of perhaps twenty men had been collected and were marching along the best they could. Some were quite ill and nearly on the point of dropping, others



Railroad station at Ponce, Porto Rico.



were shuffling along with blistered feet when every step brought its torture. They were in no mood to accept the open insult of the intoxicated sergeant and lieutenant in command but were reluctant to cause a disturbance with their comrades.

After trudging along nearly a block, the abuse became unbearable and the men openly protested against its continuance. The lieutenant spurred his horse forward and loosening his revolver in its holster, ordered them to "shut up," and with a drunken leer informed the men he would kill the first one who dared to disobey him and fall out of the ranks. Instantly there was the sound of a dozen click-clicks and as many Springfield rifles were full cocked and brought to a "ready." The little handful of men had grown desperate and while they knew they were courting death in thus defying an officer, they also knew there were men in the line, who from sheer exhaustion, might drop at any moment and should the lieutenant attempt to carry his threat into effect they certainly would have done so regardless of the consequences to themselves. The first movement on the part of the lieutenant towards drawing a weapon would have been the signal for at least a dozen rifles to be trained on him and every man was in the mood to shoot to kill. The officer was not so drunk but what he saw and understood the actions of the men and reining in his horse he dropped in behind the column. Taking advantage of the opportunity the men broke from the line and in two's and three's took to the narrow pavement all the while keeping a close watch on the actions of the lieutenant. He appeared to be stunned or the dangerous position in which he found himself had sobered him to the extent that he began to realize he had carried his authority to extremes



under the circumstances. At any rate he made no effort to stop the men and in a moment they were out of his sight, mingling with other belated soldiers and he could not have identified them if he had cared to do so.

The crooked narrow streets of Ponce were now all but blocked by the train of bullock carts which followed in the wake of the troops. It was with difficulty that we made way through them at times and it seemed we never would get within sight of the camp. Just before reaching the outskirts of the city we heard the sound of marching troops and halting, we waited for them to put in an appearance as we were in doubt as to what direction we had best take to find our regiment and thought it possible the approaching soldiers might lead us to camp. As they hove in sight a military band struck up a lively march and the street suddenly swarmed with natives, drawn thither by the sound of the music. Imagine our astonishment when, as the tall color sergeant strode by bearing the American flag, the little Porto Ricans doffed their hats to a man. We were accustomed to witnessing this salute from our own men but were very much surprised to witness the mark of respect which was paid the colors by the natives, considering the few days they had known the "Americanos."

Upon making inquiries from the passing soldiers we were directed to our camp which was something over a mile out of town in an open field. We hurried along and fording a shallow stream soon found the regiment. We were in the nick of time too, for as we threw off our packs and stretched out on the ground for a good rest, the bugler sounded orderlies' call and when the first sergeants arrived at headquarters they were instructed to return to their companies at once and all stragglers who



arrived thereafter should be placed under arrest and the regimental guard selected from among them.

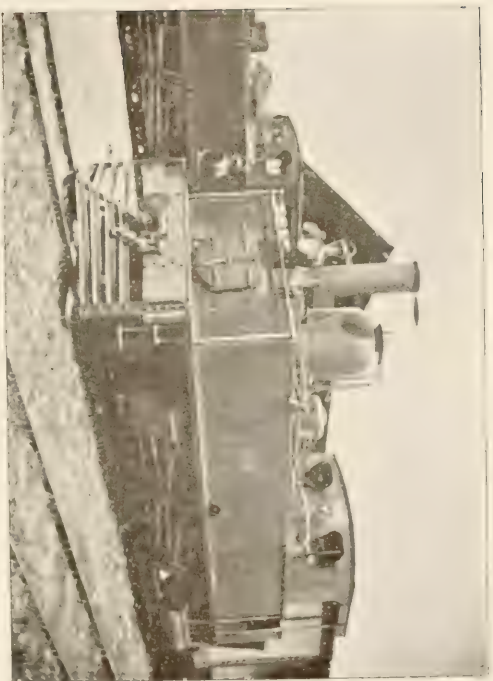
It may have been good generalship but to the sick and worn-out soldiers it seemed but little short of an outrage to be compelled to stand guard in the condition they were then in. Nine out of every ten of the men had fallen out because they could not stand the strain. Any number of them were actually ill and were in need of medical attendance, yet they were forced to shoulder their guns and keep a lonely vigil throughout the long hours of the night.

The number of stragglers was considerably in excess of the force required for guard duty and the remaining ones were placed in a temporary guardhouse for the night. This guard house was an open place selected near headquarters. The ground was rough and covered with stone. Into this place the men were huddled and a heavy guard placed over them. Seeking rest as best they may they spent the miserable night, and morning found them in an angry frame of mind. A little kindness at the hands of those who were chief in command would have been fully appreciated at this time but the experiences of the past few days had taught the men that they need not look for it and they said but little, realizing they must obey.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

One company of the Sixth Massachusetts had been retained at Yauco to guard the field hospital which had been established there upon the arrival of the division. Shortly after the departure of the force as it advanced toward Ponce, reports were brought in to the officer in command at Yauco to the effect that the Spanish at San German were planning an attack on the small garrison. Assistance was called for and company F of Moline commanded by Capt. Frank Clendenin and two companies of the Nineteenth regulars were returned to Yauco to reinforce the company of Massachusetts boys. Either the plan of attacking the garrison was abandoned by the enemy or the re-enforcements scared them away as nothing was heard from them. On the third of August the company of Massachusetts troops joined the regiment at Ponce. On the seventh the three remaining companies were relieved from further duty at that point and returned to the general camp, the hospital having been removed to Ponce in the meantime.

General Henry evinced much displeasure at what he termed the lack of discipline shown by the men in dropping out of the ranks during the march and straggling into camp. After our arrival at Ponce he summoned the officers to his quarters and scored them heavily for "not having better control over the men." The matter caused considerable ill feeling to arise throughout the division



Railroad locomotive, Narrow gauge line, Porto Rico.



and was the cause of the colonel and several of the staff of the Massachusetts regiment tendering their resignations which were immediately accepted and the ex-officers returned to the States.

General Henry appeared to overlook the fact that these men had been alternately baked and broiled for seventeen days while on shipboard and were weakened considerably as the consequence. In this condition they had been thrown into a foreign country where the climate differed materially from that to which they had been accustomed. In addition to this they had been given a test that would have severely tried the endurance of troops hardened by a campaign. The actions of the general plainly showed his dissatisfaction and the men, although anxious to do all within their power were disheartened by the treatment they received, when a few words of encouragement would have done wonders toward reviving their drooping spirits.

A half hours work, or less, by a score of men at each of the streams forded, would have made it possible for the whole force to have crossed dry shod, and thus avoided the cause for fully one half of the straggling. If the column was halted by the side of a glaring cliff where the sun darted its fierce rays down upon the men they were compelled to remain in that position rather than allow them to seek a shaded spot. At such times weary as the men were, it was a relief to continue the march. All of these things, slight as some of them were, were noted by the men and although they did not have a desire to rebel, it had a tendency to cause them to exert themselves less than they would have done, had they been privileged to take advantage of the few opportunities that arose looking toward their own comfort, yet in no manner detracting from the strength or dis-

cipline of the force, at least until they had become somewhat more accustomed to the conditions surrounding them.

The march from Guanica gave us a fair idea of the chorography of the country as it differs but slightly throughout the island. After leaving Guanica the line of march followed a cart road for a distance of about three miles in a northerly course, thence turning sharply to the east. About half way between the turn and Yauco, the cart road terminated and the remainder of the march to Ponce was made over a horse trail. Just before reaching Yauco we crossed a spur of the mountain range which extended toward the south in the direction of the coast. We were then several miles inland. We passed several banana and cane fields while the trail was bordered with cocoanut palms laden with fruit, and a great variety of tropical plants which under different circumstances would have delighted the hearts of the boys from the north but then were passed almost unnoticed.

The streams which were crossed are very picturesque, wending their way around the base of the mountains, singing and hurrying on toward the sea and finally bursting forth to view from a tangled mass of shrubbery, gurgling over and around the stepping stones which had been placed in the shallow beds by the natives, the water as clear as crystal. These streams, or mountain brooks, expand into raging torrents immediately after a rain storm farther up in the mountains. The low embankments overflow and the swirling current is filled with debris which is carried down from the mountain sides. Occasionally portions of the hastily constructed, primitive abode of a hapless peon was seen on the crest of the mud colored stream as it swept by.



What would be considered a heavy rain storm in Illinois is as a spring shower when compared with the deluge that occurs almost daily in the mountains of Porto Rico, during the months of August and September. Great low hanging clouds, race swiftly along until they come in contact with the jagged peaks of the highest mountains which apparently make great rents in the black masses, out from which pours enormous quantities of water, flooding the whole country in the vicinity of the storm. As the violence of the storm increases, the mountain sides and trails become dangerous as great rocks are dislodged and go rolling and tumbling far down into the valleys below, carrying with them large trees and setting hundreds of cubic feet of earth in motion, causing landslides of no mean proportions completely blockading the trail for rods.

The dry beds of the valleys are buried in the seething torrents, the tiny rivulets become rivers and the topography of the scene is altered as if by magic. As the storm abates, the sun shines forth brightly and a heavy fog of steam arises from the earth which all but suffocates the unacclimated. The rugged country is rapidly drained of the flood only to meet with a repetition of the occurrence on the following day. If a native remained out in storm he protected his head and shoulders with a wide banana leaf which he carried poised above him.

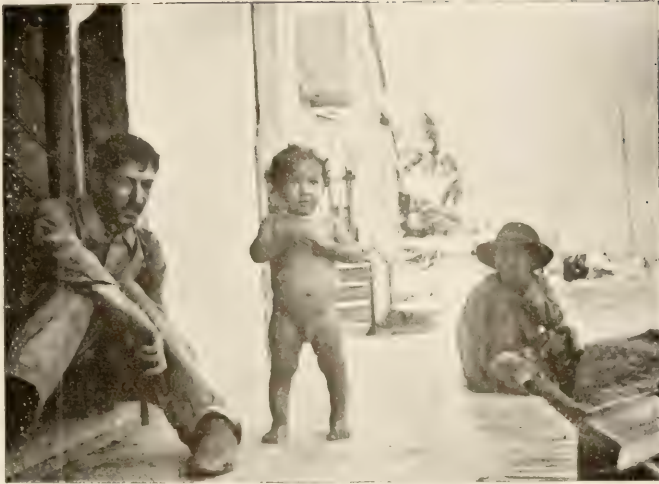
Yauco was at that time the western terminus of a narrow guage railway which followed the coast as far east as Ponce. Upon leaving Yauco we crossed another mountain range, our route following the general direction of the railroad and bearing slightly to the south. At times we were within sight of the sea. We



skirted several prominent mountains but did but little climbing as the horse trail wound in and about the foot of the hills but seldom crossed the summit while along the coast. Several miles out from Ponce the trail and the railroad ran side by side for some distance. As we were marching along, a diminutive, box like locomotive, to which was attached a queer open car, came rumbling along. The engine was apparently doing her best as she was working hard and was covering about twelve miles per hour. At Tallaboa, the train picked up a few sick soldiers and took them back to Yauco to the hospital.

The trail led us through a sparsely settled portion of the island. We passed through several small villages but in the open country a house was rarely seen. The manner of building is peculiar to the inhabitants of that country. The better class of residences are built of corrugated iron, both walls and roofing, some are clap boarded similar to the less pretentious homes of the working class of people in the United States, others are built of brick and overlaid with a coating of whitewash, while the home of the peons are built of poles and rough boards with thatched roofs, or with walls and roof covered with grass and huge leaves. Without exception every house in the country and in the villages is raised from two to five and six feet from the ground. The houses of the more wealthy of the residents are enclosed in high fences or walls inside of which are beautiful gardens of flowers and all about everything is neat and tidy.

One peculiarity of all buildings which gave them an odd appearance was the absence of window glass. With one or two exceptions we did not see a house of



Snap shot of Rorto Rican child in usual costume, wearing  
a bright smile and a string of beads.



any description on the island which had a piece of window glass in its construction. The doors are made in two parts, the upper half remaining open the better part of the time while the lower half is kept closed. The window openings are protected by paneled shutters. The temperature varies but little at any period during the year and glazed windows are considered an expensive luxury and not at all a necessity. The system of taxation in vogue previous to the invasion of the American troops practically prohibited the purchase of numerous articles which we, in our homes, could not well get along without. Among them was the window glass. A glimpse of the interior of several of the better class of residences showed bare walls and uncarpeted floors and a scarcity of furniture that was surprising.

After entering Ponce we found practically the same conditions existing there as in the country with possibly a slight change for the better in certain portions of the city. If cleanliness is next to godliness, then they were certainly an ungodly lot, as the condition of the streets and interior of nearly all of the store buildings was indisputable evidence against them. Ordinarily they were neat and tidy about their clothing and person, but beyond that the common people appeared to care nothing. Occasionally one found a store or other public building where the exception proved the rule but such places were not numerous enough to impress the visitor with the habits of cleanliness of the general people.

The people are small in stature, the average height being less than five feet. The men are narrow chested and have a consumptive look about them. The women are slightly taller and more portly than the men and

appear healthy and robust as a rule. The children are small and usually run about wearing nothing but a string of yellow beads and a bright smile until they are from ten to twelve years of age. They are pot-bellied almost to a deformity and delight to roll about in the dirt, the hot rays of the midday sun having no apparent effect on their glistening, naked bodies. Either through fear or wishing to cover their nakedness, they would hide behind their mothers skirts at the approach of an "Americano,"

Generally speaking, the men were more tidy as to dress than the women. The men wore white linen suits throughout. The glossy bosoms of their white shirts were artistically embroidered and surmounted with white standing collars. The coat was loose and cool, but the trousers, usually dirty and greasy, with frayed edges at the lower extremities, spoiled the effect of the otherwise natty dress. The head was covered with a high peaked, wide brimmed, straw hat, the outer edge of the brim being turned up in a half roll. The feet are wide and flat, with wide spreading toes and usually without covering of any sort.

The dress of the opposite sex is more difficult to describe. The design of the garments were invariably the same, being made from a white flimsy sort of goods and loose fitting. The fashion of lacing did not prevail among the native women at that time. They apparently made but little effort to keep their clothing clean and like the men went about barefooted. They seldom wore any covering for the head and when they did it was either a large kerchief, wound about the head in the form of a turban, or a shawl, woven from some white fabric, which was thrown loosely over the head and should-

ers.

Among the common people, men, women and children alike were adicted to the habit of smoking and they went about pulling at a big black cigar or inhaling the fumes of a cigarette. But few of the smokers used a pipe and not many of the natives chewed tobacco. While passing through the "tough" part of Ponce we were disgusted at the sight of numerous women, dressed in bedraggled, greasy clothing, swaggering along the street with a bold air and a brazen look, pushing and elbowing their way through the crowds, all the while chewing at the stub of a half consumed, foul smelling cigar. They represented the lowest class of people on the island and were truly a disgusting lot.

On account of the many inter-marriages of the natives and foreigners, their complexion and features vary to the extremes. Some are quite swarthy yet nearly as white as the Europeans. Others are of a brownish yellow while the mulatto and the ebony black negro are found in about equal numbers. The features of those of the lightest complexion are long and thin. The eyes are dark and deep set and extremely bright. The hair is dark or black and inclined to be curly. With the darker complexion, the features appear coarser, while the profile of the blacks is almost identical with that of the African negro, the exception being in the absence of the thick protruding lips.

They are a mild mannered class of people and their actions proclaimed they had never known the sweetness of independence and untrammelled liberty. They bowed to every command and accepted their lot as inevitable, yet before we left the island a noticable change came over them and they appeared to have come to realize

that the tyrannical yoke of Spanish misrule had been lifted from their necks and that the freedom and protection offered by Uncle Sam had opened up a new world to them and they were slaves no more but men among men.

Who can wonder at the expressions of joy and "vivas" to the "Americanos" which we met with in every town and village as we marched through the crooked, dirty streets, bearing the starry banner which even they, uneducated as they then were, knew brought hope and life where before all must have been black with despair. That combination of red, white and blue, in the stars and stripes is an inspiration in itself and is a welcome sight to everyone who loves their liberty. It implies more to the downtrodden and oppressed than any combination of colors and figures which adorns the emblem of any other nation on the globe, and today it carries more weight in an international argument than any other one emblem afloat.

This brief description of the inhabitants covers what may be termed the middle class, which predominates in point of numbers. The lower class was scantily clothed and appeared half starved, while the more wealthy people were more elegant in appearance, manners and dress. This latter class of people was composed of French, German, Spanish and a few natives, and represented the greater portion of the wealth of the island. The women were richly dressed and painted and powdered lavishly in a vain effort to cover the swarthiness of their complexion. They were seldom seen on the street unless accompanied by a gentleman escort.

The usual mode of conveyance was on horseback.





A Porto Rican family.



Nearly every man and boy had his pony. They are yet smaller than our western bronchos, but gentle and they move along with an easy, rocking motion which at once proclaims them as excellent saddle horses. For transporting supplies etc., the two wheeled bullock carts and pack horses were both in use along the coast, but in the interior the roads are impassible to wheeled vehicles and the pack horses alone are used. A native pack train consists of half a dozen of the small horses or donkeys. On each side of the animal a large basket is hung in which is placed the articles of transport. The contents of these baskets was either fruit enroute to a seacoast town or a supply of codfish going inland. The driver sits astride the horse between the two baskets. No matter how heavy the load, the man seldom thinks of walking any distance and then only to stretch his legs after sitting in the cramped position for some time.

The fruits, of which there were numerous varieties, grew wild to a great extent. The bananas were cultivated and found only in groves, but the oranges, limes, mangoes, pineapples, bread fruits and many other kinds, the names of which we never learned, grew in profusion along the length of our route while on the march. At every camp established on the island we found them among the woods and shrubbery. Cocoanut palms were always within sight. The oranges were not ripe, or if they were they had none of the deliciousness of the kinds we were accustomed to. They contained a great amount of acid and were quite bitter. By making an incision in the peel and giving the orange a slight squeeze between the palms of the hands, the escaping acid, when applied to the flame of a lighted candle or burning match would instantly become ignited and give forth a lurid blue

flame, flashing up like smokeless powder.

The limes are not unknown in our own land as the juice from this fruit is used quite extensively as an ingredient in some of our most delicious drinks and liquors. They are a species of lemon and grow on a tree similar to the lemon tree. The fruit is much smaller, and like the oranges, we found them to contain much acid and very bitter to the taste. In the hotels and eating houses lime water was a common drink. The mangoes are also found in the fruit markets of some of the larger cities of this country. They grow on trees which have many branches like the most common apple trees. The fruit, when ripe, is quite yellow, and oblong in shape having a length of about three inches with a width of two or two and one half inches. The skin is thin but tough and covers a yellowish, stringy meat in the center of which is a large core or pit. Many of the boys relished a mango as they would an apple, yet there were others who could not become accustomed to the peculiar flavor which is sweet and yet tart. We were told that eating this fruit and drinking the native rum was the cause of much sickness and many deaths on the island and we were advised to let them both alone.

Everyone knows what the pineapple is. The bread-fruits are of several varieties. The fruit is shaped like an apple but is several times larger, being from six to eight inches in diameter. The species which appeared most in evidence has a hard shell covering from an eighth to a quarter of an inch in thickness. The contents is white and mealy and is eaten as food. Of the fruits the names of which we were unable to learn, there were two varieties which were much sought by the soldiers. One grew on a large tree and was usually found among

the very thickest growth of timber. The fruit hangs on branches high up from the ground and is similar to the breadfruit in size. When ripened it is soft and in striking the earth when falling from the tree, breaks open and soon decays if left lying on the ground. The outer surface is of a dark green color and covered with numerous small growths which in some respects reminds one of the hedge apple. The purplish fruit is nearly entirely edible, containing but a very small core, and is extremely rich, juicy and delicious.

Another very desirable variety grows in clusters and size and shape much like the ordinary plum and on trees somewhat similar to a cherry tree. It is green in color when ripe and has a thin, hard shell for a covering. Upon breaking the shell open a flabby, pinkish pulp is exposed which clings to a large pit in its center. The peel is easily removed but the pulp is with difficulty separated from the pit. The pulp is pleasing to the taste, having a tartness about it which reminds one very much of plum jelly. From its growth, formation and flavor we judged it to be a variety of plum.

We were plentifully supplied with cocoanuts at all times. During the first few days after our arrival on the island the natives gave them to us for a mere nothing. One day, a soldier, in a generous moment, gave one of the little brown fellows a blue flannel shirt in exchange for a cocoanut. He had more clothing than he could conveniently carry when on the march and rather than throw it away, as many of the boys did, he made the trade with the fruit seller. From that moment the price of a cocoanut was a blue shirt and no amount of argument or persuasion would induce them to reduce the price until the commanding officer of the camp notified

the venders that he would strictly prohibit the sale of the cocoanut unless a reasonable price was put upon them and maintained. This had the desired effect and a great many of them were brought into camp and sold. The natives would break the half-ripe nut open, drink the milky fluid which it contained and throw the remainder away, while the soldier cared not so much for the drink as the white, solid meat if the nut was ripe.

The banana groves were a welcome sight to us as we soon came to rely on this fruit for food when our rations would not suffice us, which was not an uncommon occurrence. In the midst of this land of fruits, which were the staff of life of more than one half of its million of souls, we expected to literally roll in the deliciousness of the many varieties which grew on nearly every shrub, bush and tree within sight and which we had been accustomed to consider as luxuries in our northern homes. In this we were sadly disappointed as we were not long in recognizing the fact that while these people were proficient in the cultivation of many of them, they knew practically nothing of the art of curing or ripening the product. The cheapness of the fruit was its one redeeming feature as the quality was of the poorest when compared with that which is put upon the market of this country.

Mahogany wood which we value so highly was found in profusion in certain parts of the island. We found mahogany telegraph poles of large sizes strung for miles along the line of march. Rail fences were built of this wood. In fact it appeared to be about the only kind of hard wood which could be utilized for such purposes as it bore no fruit and its commercial value was under estimated or unknown.





Searching the foot hills for signs of the enemy.





## CHAPTER XIX.

During the eight days we were in camp at Ponce we had many opportunities to visit the city. This is the largest city on the island, the population of the town and port was variously estimated at from twenty to thirty thousand. To one unaccustomed to their mode of living it seemed utterly impossible to crowd such a number of souls into a city covering no more area than does Ponce. The tenement houses were seldom more than two stories in height and never more than three. In the center of a brick block would be a large court with several wide entrances opening onto the streets. These entrances are protected by heavy iron doors made of bars or corrugated iron. Peering into the court one would see swarms of children and women. All of these places were foul smelling and the occupants unkempt and dirty. As in the tenement districts of our own larger cities, whole families were crowded together in one small room.

Venders of all sorts of goods were seen on the streets daily and our camp was alive with them from early morn till night. The men, women and children invariably tote everything on their heads. Little tots, selling candies, made of sugar or molasses, ran about with a large tray nicely balanced on the head and it was a common sight to witness a woman carrying a babe in her arms with a huge can or kettle of water poised on her head.

The business portion of the city was surprisingly quiet and although the stores and shops are numerous, there appeared to be but few buyers for the wares. The market square usually presented a lively scene but the articles on sale were of little value and commanded prices so low that a large volume of trade represented very light cash receipts. In the poorer districts groceries and meats were bought and sold by the ounce. The balance scale was everywhere in use and it was amusing to witness a transaction between a storekeeper and purchaser. We had been on the island but a few days over a week, yet the shelves of many of the stores were well filled with army hardtack and sowbelly. Just how the merchants secured these goods was a mystery to us, more especially so as the rations issued to the soldiers were always short. It was irritating to step into one of those dirty, halfway places and find our supplies staring us in the face from the shelves. These things may have been purchased from the government but we doubted it very much.

The natives were eager to secure the meat and purchased it in very small quantities. A seemingly half starved native woman dressed in tatters would enter a store. In one thin, brown hand, a few coppers were clutched and after looking around nervously for a moment, she would give an order for a piece of meat. The clerk, with all of the dignity of one accepting an order for several hundred dollars worth of goods, would slice off a piece of side meat no wider than your two fingers, and weighing less than a half a pound, drop it into the balance and if it was the slightest fraction over weight, he would trim it off until satisfied and if the purchaser was not alive to the trickery of the wily shopkeeper, he

would slip a small weight under the piece of coarse wrapping paper and into the pan of the balance which contained the meat. Picking up his knife the clerk would continue the trimming process and as the small square of sowbelly grew smaller and smaller, the anxious customer would put up a fearful howl which was usually the opening gun of a war of words. Shaking their fists in each others faces and gesticulating wildly the argument would continue fast and furious for some time, the customer apparently alternately protesting and pleading, but to all entreaties the clerk would turn a deaf ear and giving a turn or so of the paper around its precious contents he would retain his grasp on the package until he had secured the few coppers which the customer would angrily deal out to him.

Not alone in the sale of meat were these difficulties evident. A hot exchange of words accompanied nearly every sale and to us it appeared the shopkeeper was usually victorious. With the exception of possibly half a dozen stores located in the center of town, each one sold liquors in connection with the other business. The rum and wine, common to all parts of the island, was sold in large quantities. The natives drank it with a relish and without effect, but to the uninitiated soldiers it was the vilest of fire water, a very little of it would start a soldier to wabbling and leave him half sick for a week. The most popular place in town was a wine room conducted by a young fellow who appeared as a king among the sporting element of the city. He was always flashily dressed and reminded us of one who followed the prize ring and race course for a living. He spoke English quite fluently and was indeed a genial fellow. The place was not a resort, there was no "Ladies Entrance,"

and women did not frequent the house. The proprietor received the patronage of all classes of people, as in that country the drink habit is as general as that of smoking.

A general store carried a small stock of groceries, hardware, drygoods, tobacco, liquors and fruit. The business represented here, as in all of the towns of any size, which was most distinct in itself, was that of the druggist. There we found a very intelligent class of clerks and employees, one or more of which could speak English fairly well. They were extremely polite, well dressed and had a business way about them that placed them far in advance of the ordinary merchant in the estimation of the soldiers.

The milkman leads his docile cows to the door of his patron and fills the bottle while you wait. They evidently are not acquainted with the productive qualities of the town pump as are their brother tradesmen of this country. The city police wear a uniform of white and are armed with the Remington rifle. The police officers carry a side arm in the shape of a large machete, made much like a heavy cavalry saber, incased in a leather scabbard. In patrolling the city they usually walk in the middle of the street.

The port of Ponce presented a lively scene throughout day and sometimes far into the night. The bay was well filled with transports, relief ships and supply boats, with here and there a war vessel swinging at her anchor. The government had secured the services of a large number of natives to unload the supplies which were being brought to the island. Huge barges were continually on the move and thousands of dollars worth of supplies and ammunition was rapidly placed on shore.



The company tonsorial artist. "Next."





Large storage buildings were in the course of construction and everyone about the place was busy as a bee. The natives worked like beavers under the eyes of an armed guard. Bullock carts, and army wagons drawn by sleek looking mules, were moving great loads of supplies out to the various camps. General Miles' headquarters was in a brick building not far from the wharf and he was supervising the work.

On coming into the city from camp and while returning we passed and repassed a small, dingy, stone building. A small, grated window opened out on the street. The head and shoulders of a heavy bearded, dark featured man could always be seen at this window. One long, hairy arm dangled through the iron bars and hung limply over the stone window sill. His presence there every day and always in the same position excited the curiosity of the soldiers. One day Captain Lawrie and a party stepped over to the building, which set back from the street several rods, and were admitted by an attendant. And what a sight met their gaze. They instantly saw they were in an alms or mad house. They were conducted through a number of filthy rooms. The walls were bare and the only furniture visible was a cot or two on which rested some of the most pitiable objects imaginable. The face which appeared at the window was that of an insane man. He was larger by considerable than the ordinary native and one close look was sufficient to decide that he was a maniac. In the center of one room stood a young girl. Her legs and arms were crossed, her eyes were closed and her head hung to one side. Not the first spark of intelligence shone from the white face and she weaved backward and forward as though about to fall. Her clothing was in tatters

and hung loosely upon the spare form of the unfortunate girl. She was an idiot, unable to think or do for herself, uncared for and probably unthought of, grinding out a miserable existence among surroundings which could not be worse and yet she was human. Who could imagine a worse lot and for one so young? Fortunately there were but few inmates in the place and the little party, made sick in both mind and body by the sight and repugnant odor of the interior of the building, hurried out into the open air and away from it. If one met a native in the neighborhood of the building and pointed inquiringly toward it, he would raise a hand to the side of his head and turn it around and around, signifying that the occupants had "wheels in their heads."

Out at camp it was a question as to which was the most troublesome, the natives or centipedes. During the day it was the former and as the gloom of night settled over us the latter made their appearance and broke the rest of many of the volunteers. The natives carried their wares about offering them in exchange for money, hardtack, meat or clothing. They did a thriving business in the hardtack line as we were getting extremely tired of them and either traded or gave them away. These they sold in the town for one cent, (Porto Rican coin) each. A number of enterprising native women did a thriving laundry business among the officers and men. Their manner of washing clothing is primitive but the result is very satisfactory. The washboard and tub are unthought of and there is no lugging water. The clothes are carried to the bank of some convenient stream, a large flat stone partially out of the water is selected and on this the clothes are

pounded and rubbed until every particle of dirt has been taken out, then the clothing is spread out upon the grass to dry.

The duties while at Ponce were light as they consisted mostly of guard duty. Full companies relieved each other on outpost duty and shortly after we arrived in camp we were advised that we were to be equipped with the U. S. Magazine rifles. We were given target practice with the Springfield rifles and shot away thousands of rounds of the ammunition which we had packed from Guanica. The men detailed to guard the ammunition on the wharf at Guanica, made the trip to Ponce by boat and joined us later on. On the sixth of August we were issued the new rifles and belts with a supply of ammunition. The guns were some lighter than the old Springfields and the difference in weight of the same number of rounds of ammunition was considerable.

We had been using the shelter tents, consequently our quarters were rather cramped. After four or five days in camp we were informed that the heavy tentage was being unloaded at the port and each company was given a couple of bullock carts, and with a detail of men were sent after them. Arriving at the wharf they found such a congestion of carts and wagons that it was impossible to get near the sheds. They lined their teams up by the curb and awaited their turn. The noon hour came and they were still waiting, the scanty rations were divided with the native drivers. Another long wait and darkness was upon them with the long line of teams ahead of them gradually growing smaller.

The native drivers began to get restless. The animals had not been fed or watered since early morning.

The soldiers rations had all disappeared as they had fully expected that they would be back at camp in the early evening at the latest. The drivers became uglier with each passing moment and after consulting together a few moments they took the bullocks from the carts and started down a by street with them, leaving the soldiers guarding the lone carts. They attempted to induce the natives to remain but failing in this, they used force and after a time the teams were once more attached to the carts. About nine o'clock a portion of the carts were sent for and pulling up at the wharf they were partly loaded with tent poles and they returned to camp. The tents were not all unloaded from the boat and the next morning we received orders to continue the march. The tent poles, which had caused so much trouble were not taken from the carts at all.

The volunteers who were sick were ordered to report to the surgeons for an examination, and those who were physically unable to continue the march were to be returned to the United States. A number from each company took this examination and several of them were found to be in such condition as to make it impracticable for them to remain with the regiment for a time at least, during the hard march which was expected would be a severe one even for those who were in good condition.

In the meantime Brigadier General Schwan had arrived at Guanica and was ordered to disembark his troops, and march to Yauco and thence west with an additional force of two batteries of artillery and one troop of cavalry. This force was to occupy the western portion of the island and drive out or capture all of the Spanish troops in that territory. From August seventh

to fifteenth General Schwan's troops had several engagements with the Spanish, made prisoners of war one hundred and sixty-two regulars, captured and paroled two hundred volunteers, captured much valuable material, and cleared the western part of the island of the enemy.

Major General Brooke arrived on July thirty-first and disembarked at Arroyo, on the southeastern coast of the island. On August fifth his troops had a sharp engagement with the enemy at Guayama, which was finally occupied by our forces. On the eighth, another action took place near this point and the Spanish troops were driven to the north in the direction of San Juan. The order for cessation of hostilities arrived at about this period and stopped farther action. General Wilson's troops, which had landed at Ponce previous to the arrival of General Henry's division, had been advanced in a northeasterly direction, and at Coamo a sharp engagement took place between his command and the Spanish. Our troops were successful in the action and a number of the enemy were killed and nearly two hundred taken prisoners. The Spanish troops had taken a position at Asomante, in the mountains some fifteen miles in advance of General Wilson's command, in the direction of San Juan. On the twelfth of August, General Wilson's artillery began shelling the enemy's position, preparatory to an advance, and were under arms and ready to move when orders were received suspending hostilities.

The western and southern portions of the island was well invested by our troops and the enemy had been driven in the direction of San Juan. Our division, under command of General Henry, was to march direct-

ly north from Ponce in the direction of Arecibo, which is located on the northern coast of the island. There we were to join General Schwan's brigade. The object of this movement was to intercept the enemy retreating before the advance of General Schwan's troops. This operation would have formed a strong division on the line of retreat of the Spanish troops occupying the western portion of the island.

On August ninth our brigade began the march in the direction of Arecibo. For a few miles north of Ponce the military road was in excellent condition, but beyond that the trail had at first been considered almost impassable for an army. General Stone had been engaged for several days, with a force of natives, in opening the trail for the passage of our troops. The newly made trails were in horrible condition and the men could make but little headway at times. In the march to Utuado and their subsequent return, the troops of General Henry's command covered more miles than those of any other division of the invading army of Porto Rico, and this over mountain trails, which were poor enough at their best, and made much worse by the daily downpour of rain which we encountered.



## CHAPTER XX.

On the morning of the ninth of August, our division broke camp and marching through the town, took a northerly course with Arecibo as its final destination, as far as we then knew. Arecibo is located on the northern coast of the island, about half way between the eastern and western coasts and almost directly north of Ponce as the crow flies. The island is about forty miles in width at this point but the trail wound in, out, and around the mountains in such a crazy fashion as to make the actual distance between the two cities several times forty miles.

The campaign, as mapped out by General Miles, was intended to drive out or capture all of the Spanish troops in the southern and eastern portions of the island, thus forcing them toward a common center, and eventually drawing the lines of the advancing troops closer until the enemy's forces were practically hemmed in, in the vicinity of San Juan, the capital city of Porto Rico, and located on the northeastern coast of the island. With the Spaniards driven together and our land troops menacing them in the rear and on both flanks, while the guns of our war-ships were trained on the city and neighboring country, the position of the enemy would soon have become untenable and the result must have been the surrender of their forces.



The natural consequence of the movements of the commands of Generals Wilson and Brooks, on our right and General Schwan's troops on our left, would be to gradually force the troops of the enemy back into the center of the island and toward our line of march, and we fully expected to have a brush with them most any time after we had gotten well away from the coast.

The military road running north from Ponce several miles, was far superior to any country road we had ever seen in the states. In many places it was blasted and built from solid rock with a generous growth of fine shade trees on either side. As we drew away from the coast the roadway gradually inclined upward and made abrupt turns around the foothills of the mountains which we were approaching. The steady climb soon began to tell on the men and they began to drop by the roadside. The Massachusetts boys were in advance of us and as we plodded along we passed numbers of their regiment who had been beaten down by the fierce heat. These men were readily recognized by the brown uniforms which they wore.

We found the nights to be very cool, and before dawn a heavy dew fell. As the sun rose over the hill tops the dew was condensed and a heavy vapor enveloped everything. By this the men were given a thorough broiling early each morning and left them soft and weak for the remainder of the day. The heat was more intense and did more execution between the hours of eight and ten o'clock in the morning than at any other time during the day. At the commencement of this march the officers had been instructed to watch their men carefully and no man would be allowed to fall out of the column without a written permit from a

commissioned officer of his company. We were given ten minutes rest each hour, march twenty-five minutes and rest five, repeating this each half hour while on the march.

At about the noon hour, as the column was taking its five minutes rest, the men were ordered to an attention and General Henry, accompanied by two staff officers, came riding towards us. By this time the men were in hard shape and General Henry must have passed a large number of them who were lying by the roadside overcome by the heat. The call for a doctor or a hospital attendant was being continually passed up and down the line as some of the weaker ones fell fainting in a comrades arms or at his feet. As the General rode by our battalion he was heard to remark, "This is terrible, if the heat continues we must put these men on night marches." Nothing more was heard from it however.

We were then well into the mountains and were passing through a very productive part of the island. Coffee plantations, covering several thousand acres each, were located along the route. They extended partly up the mountain side, midst what appeared to us to be a heavy growth of timber. Upon getting into the woodland we saw that the trees were kept thinned out and just enough remained standing to make a good shade for the coffee plant. These plants attain a height of from six to ten feet, branching out at the top, the berry growing in a pod at the extreme end of the branches. The pods were just turning to a reddish color and in a short time would be in condition to harvest.

The residences, and buildings which surrounded them, were much handsomer and more substantially

built than those found along the coast. Coffee houses were usually of large dimensions and well built. In the front of the store houses, dry beds were made of cement and slightly raised from the ground. Small cars, built on trucks, were run out to the dry beds on platforms built of plank. Sugar mills became more frequent and here and there a native would have his corn crop harvested and strung on poles very close to his abode. We had been informed that corn was one of the principle products of the island but never saw more than five or six bushels of ear corn in one mans gathering for the season.

The first night out from Ponce we bivouaced in and about a coffee house. A small store building and a couple of native homes were in the neighborhood and the village bore the name of Gagos. On the opposite side of the road from the coffee house an excellent grazing ground for the bullocks and mules was found. This was on the mountain side and quite steep. An embankment ten feet high bordered the inner side of the roadway. Just over the outer edge of this bank the men had rolled themselves in their blankets and were sleeping soundly. Back of them and farther up the slope the mules and bullocks were feeding. During the middle of the night the cattle stampeded and rushed about in the wildest confusion. The startled sleepers awoke, and taking in the situation made a break to get out of the path of the oncoming, half crazed bullocks. In the hurry and excitement they forgot the abrupt drop into the roadway directly in front of them and the darkness of the night prevented them from seeing it. Rushing straight ahead many of them suddenly found themselves treading the air and the next instant dropped in a heap in the road-

way below, or went sprawling half way across it. Several of the men were bruised considerable and one of our regiment had a leg broken. Major Anthony set the fractured limb the next morning and the injured man was sent back to Ponce. From this occurrence the camp derived its name of "Bull Run."

The rations did not get to us until after nine o'clock that night; there was nothing to forage and the scarcity of wood for making fires made it difficult to secure a cup of coffee. I say there was nothing to forage and, generally speaking, there was nothing, but upon skirmishing around, the proprietor of the store was found to have three half grown chickens and a duck hidden under his house.

After some dickering, two of the boys purchased a couple of chickens, paying an outrageous price for them, while the remaining chicken and duck was secured by a pair of comrades. With much difficulty the boys gathered a limited supply of wood and securing a couple of tin buckets, the fowls were placed in them and swung over the fires. They sat about the impromptu fire-places eagerly watching for the first sign of broiling, alternately stirring the fire and removing the cover of the pot to take a peep at the contents. As the odor of the broiling fowls filled the nostrils of the hungry men, they sat back in the shadows and patiently awaited for the end, and for one of the groups it soon came.

As they sat with closed eyes, their hunger increasing with each moment, and anticipating the feast which was soon to be theirs, their attention was attracted to the fire by the smell of something like that of burning leather arising from the pot while the delicious odor which had so recently pervaded the air, had disappeared. Hur-

rying to the fire they were just in time to see the bottom fall out of the pot and the badly burned chicken and duck drop into the fire. Dragging them from the blaze they found them burned to a crisp and cursing their ill luck and stupidity, they tossed the remainder of the fowls into the darkness, and kicking the glowing embers of the fire in a dozen directions they returned to the coffee house to await the coming of the wagon train which would bring them sowbelly and hardtack.

In their inexperience they had overlooked the fact that during the broiling process the water was rapidly passing away, and the pleasure derived from the prospects for a good feed, lulled them into semi-consciousness, from which they were aroused too late, and they saw their feast disappear in a moment. The boys about the other fire took warning from the experience of their unfortunate comrades and were soon devouring their chickens. Salt and pepper were both lacking but such trifles were overlooked and in a short time a small stack of bones, picked clean, lay on the ground, the only visible evidence of the repast remaining.

At one o'clock, the following afternoon, the division broke camp and in a downpour of rain, continued the march. Company E, acting as rear guard, remained motionless the remainder of the day. The march before had been difficult but was now doubly so as the hard military road terminated at the coffee house and the remainder of the march was made over freshly made trails. The trail was kept soft by the heavy rains and after the first few companies had passed over it, became a perfect sea of sticky mud, the men going in above their ankles at every step, nearly pulling off their shoes in extricating their feet. It was just a trifle the strongest case of "leg-





Resting. A group of Co. I boys taking a five minute respite from the wearying march, in Porto Rico.





pulling" which we had as yet experienced.

We had covered but a short distance when we were halted on the bank of a stream and held in a column of fours. We had been steadily climbing upwards since leaving Ponce and by this time were well up in the mountains. The rain poured down and we were soon wet to the skin and shivering from the cold. Although the men were wet and cold they kept their spirits up by singing, laughing, and treating the whole situation as a huge joke. After the storm ceased we again moved forward. In crossing the stream several of the boys slipped on the wet stepping stones and into the water they went. With each spilling, a shout went up from the watching soldiers, and the victim of the accident would be informed that no orders had been given to "fall in."

We paddled through the mud and water a few miles when we were halted for the night. And such a site for a camp. The trail at this point was not more than ten feet in width and the mud was fearful. On our left the solid face of the mountain rose abruptly far above us. On the right the trail sheered off nearly perpendicular to the valley several hundred feet below. For several moments we remained motionless, wondering how, in the name of mud, we were to convert this place into a camp. To lie or sit down meant a seat or bed in the sloppy clay. The tall grass and wide leaves of the plants growing on the very brink of the drop to the valley, were as wet as water could make them. The sun, which for once might have brought joy and comfort with its warm rays, failed to break from beneath the heavy clouds, and before preparations could be made, night was upon us.

Someone espied a wire fence close to the trail

and the boys immediately began a systematic search for fence posts. Before long it was necessary to walk two miles in advance of the camp to secure a single post. Away out there we found a banana grove and the returning soldiers brought back a double load of wood and bananas. One of the boys gave a treacherous looking native an American dollar for a scrawny duck and with a fence post on his shoulder and the duck under his arm he hurried back to camp. The rations had not come up and the contents of the haversacks went but a little way in appeasing the hunger of the men. A limited number of small fires were built and the men huddled about them in a vain effort to partially dry their clothing and drive the chill from their bodies.

The mountainside was cut away in places to make fire-places and a dry spot in which to rest. The duck which the soldier had brought into camp was dressed in the dark, cut up and placed in a meat pan. The fires were so small and occupied so fully that it was a scramble to get near one. After edging the pan to within close proximity of the scattered coals, the duck was left to roast. About ten o'clock the fowl was supposed to be well done, and the better part of it was disposed of in a few moments, the wings and drum sticks were retained for a breakfast. The meat was exceedingly rare and had a peculiar flavor but it went at any rate and sufficed to appease the hunger for the time being.

We had no blankets and the shelter tents were back with the wagon train. As the fires burned lower the weary men turned their attention to the task of arranging as comfortable sleeping quarters as possible. Some

crawled into the holes where the fires had been built others sat on their rifles and rested against the mountain side and a few stood upright and nodded. A few of the boys secured two fence posts each, and laying them parallel with each other, filled the intervening space with wet leaves and grass. Nearly every man had fallen into a fitful, restless sleep, when, close to our ears came the muffled report of a shot. All were awake in an instant. We had seen or heard nothing of the enemy since leaving Ponce but the conclusion formed by each of us was that the Spaniards had come upon us unawares and fired at the sentinels. Following the first report came another and another, the sound appearing to come from our very midst.

Everyone was mystified for a moment and rifles were brought to a "ready" and the men prepared for action. The darkness was so intense and the men were brought to their feet so suddenly that confusion reigned about us. We knew not in which direction to look for the impending danger and could not even guess in what shape it might present itself. One of our boys who was leaning against the mountain, opened his eyes and hearing the reports of the shots, shook his comrade roughly and cried out "come on comrade, the Spaniards are after us," and up the trail they flew, expecting every second to be shot down.

The mystery was soon solved and it was soon learned that one of the boys nicknamed "Alice," had placed his haversack on top of a bed of coals which contained a little fire and the canvas had burned through, bringing the cartridges which he carried, in contact with the fire, which resulted in the explosions and brought the whole camp to its feet. Major Channon was on the scene and

by his orders the haversack and contents were hurled down into the valley. "Alice" protested against this action and told the major there were but three boxes of loaded cartridges in the haversack. And he did not care so much for the haversack and ammunition but they had thrown away his tin plate.

Returning to our resting places we again stretched ourselves on the downy beds and for the most part remained awake till morning. Shortly after daylight a detail of men went back to the wagon train and brought us rations. We crawled to the eastern slope of the mountain and basking in the warm sun, dried our clothing. Looking back in the direction from which we had come the day before, we could plainly see the buildings in the village and the flat roofs of every one of them was covered with soldiers, lying prone on their backs and faces upturned to the sun. They too were drying their washing.

The man who had retained a portion of the duck for his breakfast brought it to light and found the feathers were not more than half plucked from it and the job of cleaning which had been done in the dark was anything but an appetizer for breakfast. He concluded sowbelly was good enough and threw the foul fowl over the embankment. This camp was appropriately called "Sleeping Pass," and is remembered as one of the "original" camps which circumstances forced upon us during our service in the Porto Rican campaign.



Hospital Stewards Brown and Geyer crossing the  
mountains in Porto Rico.



## CHAPTER XXI.

At ten o'clock, on the morning of August eleventh, the division again moved forward through the mud, fording numerous streams. The rain storms increased in number and violence as we climbed higher each day. Fording the streams became a more difficult task as they increased in depth and the currents grew swifter. The waters seemingly leaped from rock to rock, barely touching the gravelly beds as they continued on their mad race down the mountain, through gullies and gorges, dashing against great boulders which stood directly in their paths, swinging out and around them, always forging down and ahead, never resting. Here and there the course would narrow and the force of the entire stream would press the waters through a small opening in the rocks and with a graceful curve the glittering body would spring out and away from mother earth, picking up its course again a dozen feet below, forming a beautiful water-fall.

The scenery became more wild and grand. At times as we crawled around the mountain the trail would make a sudden turn and as we stood on the point, the valley below and country for miles about us lay exposed to our vision. These narrow valleys or gorges were entirely uncultivated and the tropical plants, bearing beautiful foliage, grew in the wildest confusion,



Looking over and beyond the beautiful handiwork of nature, opening out before us in all its splendor, the grandeur of the scene almost entirely lost to the weary soldiers, the home of some planter could be seen nestling on the mountain side, and surrounded by some half dozen less pretentious homes of his servants. In the distance they bore the appearance of buildings freshly painted white, but upon closer inspection, as we neared them later, they were found to be thatched, unpainted, tumble-down shacks, bleached to a dazzling white by the rain and sun.

The trail coursed in and out, following the irregular contour of the mountains. In many places it doubled on itself, and gazing behind us we could see the rear of the column apparently moving back in the direction of Ponce. Numerous deep gorges barred the way. To reach the opposite side we were compelled to traverse a decline for a mile or more, parallel with the gorge, crossing it some distance from where we first encountered it and climb up again on the other side. Reaching a point opposite to where the gorge made the break in the trail, less than a stone's throw separated us from the portion of the column in our rear. We had doubled more than two miles to cover an actual advance of much less than an eighth of a mile. Such was the condition of the country which we met with day after day as we advanced farther into the heart of the enemy's supposed stronghold. "Eternal vigilance" was ever the watchword and we momentarily expected to hear the pop of the "greaser's" rifles fired from ambush, the opportunity for such a move on their part frequently appearing to us to be rather tempting.

Looking back over the scenes after a lapse of three

years, one can hardly realize that we were allowed to move forward, unmolested, through that rugged country. One troop of well mounted cavalry, equipped with a half dozen portable, rapid fire guns, could have annoyed us greatly, and made it a running fight for days if they had cared to have done so. The country must have been thoroughly known to the Spanish, while to us it was a strange land. The expeditions of the scouts and advance guards being our only source of receiving information. On either flank the enemy might have laid in ambush for us, poured in a withering fire on the marching column, and scattered among the rocks and trees before our troops could locate them. The topography of the country was such that flank guards could not be put out as the only trail over which it was possible to move and remain in touch with the column was the one we were traversing.

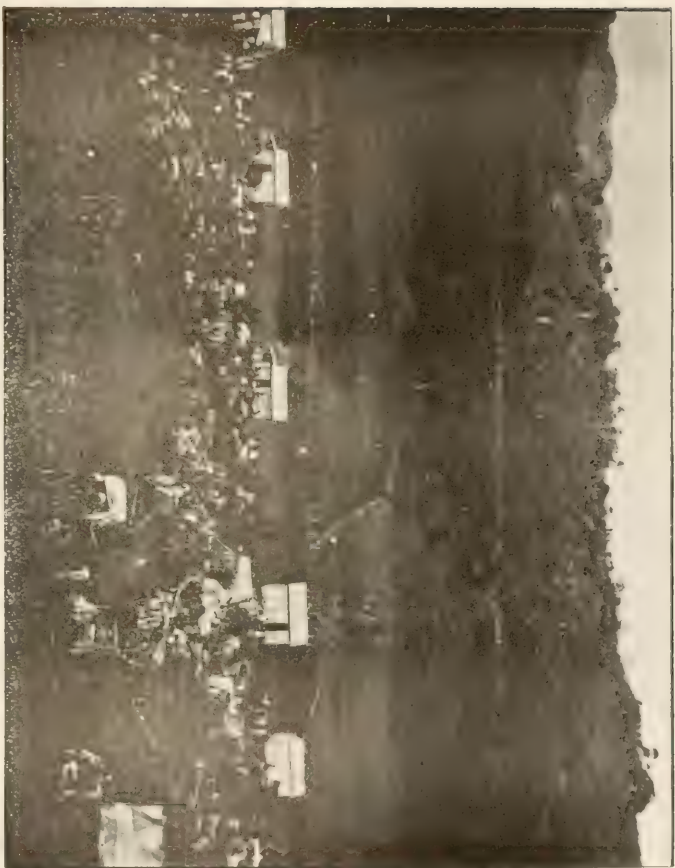
As we advanced we saw signs of the late departure of the enemy, in many places. The strong walls which surrounded the burial grounds, had been loop-holed and made into temporary forts. In several places, a point commanding the approaching trail for some distance, had been cleared and leveled, with the evident intention of mounting a field piece with which to bar the advance of our troops. But whatever their intentions or opportunities, the Spaniards did not molest us and we continued the weary climbing. Some little distance from Adjuntas, the trail descended rapidly and taking a brace on ourselves, we slid, rolled and half ran the last mile before entering the outskirts of the town.

It was late in the afternoon when we marched down the narrow street, and a half mile beyond the town. The site selected for the campground of our

regiment was on a side hill and had about "a foot of raise to every foot of run." Our blankets and shelter tents were on the bullock carts, about a days march behind us. It began to rain and we "staked our claim," because we had no tents to pitch, in a steady down pour. A very little wood was secured at the expense of the government and a small fire built at the foot of the hill, the lower end of the company street. Hungry and weary we stood about until long after dark. When completely exhausted we stretched our worn bodies on the wet ground and courted rest and slumber but they were not for us.

In the inky blackness of the night, a herd of pack-mules, wandering about, struck the center of our camp and tramped up the hill right into our midst. After much profanity on the part of the mule-whackers, ably seconded by the drenched soldiers, the long eared quadrupeds were driven away. With little or no rest the night before, and clothing soaking wet for the past forty-eight hours, the men put in a miserable night. The rain continued the next day and when the wagon train, bringing our provisions, came in during the afternoon, the drivers guided the carts off the road at the foot of the hill on which we were "stopping," the cart wheels buried in water and mud to their hubs. Here the mess tents were pitched. We quickly secured our tents and blankets and made ourselves as comfortable as possible.

Trailing in behind the wagon train came company E. The evening of the afternoon upon which we left Gagos, or Camp "Bull Run," company E was marched in the direction of Ponce some distance to the rear of the division and remained as rear guard of the column



Wagon train and mess tents at the foot of the hill on which tents were pitched at Adjuntas.



until their arrival at Adjuntas. The night that we camped on "Sleeping Pass," the boys of company E bivouaced among the bullock carts. About three o'clock in the morning they were awakened by the rain and they whiled away the remaining hours of darkness and drizzle by singing songs and dancing cake-walks. During the day they advanced to Gagos, sleeping that night in the coffee house or barn which had been converted into a hospital. The following day they marched from Gagos to Adjuntas, covering the distance which had occupied us parts of the two preceeding days.

Following in the rear of the column they saw much the worst of the experiences as the trail was fearfully chopped up and each days delay added many discomforts to the already troublesome expedition. Carts and their contents had fallen over the brink of the narrow trail, dragging the struggling bullocks with them. Horses and men were with difficulty kept right side up. A gatling gun became overbalanced and went rolling down the mountain, injuring several men and horses. Broken down carts nearly blocked the narrow trail at points. These were some of the scenes as witnessed by the Sterling boys while following in the wake of an army. When they arrived in Adjuntas they were given quarters in a brick shed for a night but were brought out to the camp site the following day. The boys of Company I were given one night of comfort also, and they found an empty building in which they were secure from the rain, but it was for a night only.

On the thirteenth, we received the first authentic information regarding the cessation of hostilities. The news was received with cheers and huzzas. The band gave a concert and for the first time since we were mus-



tered in, they rendered "Home, Sweet Home." Recollections of "Home" flooded our thoughts in an instant. No one had forgotten home and its comforts, but they had put it behind them, because they had come to realize that homesickness was worse than malarial fever and we knew "where we were at," so avoided the subject as much as possible. But when our own band boys were given the privilege of stirring the hearts of the men with this hitherto forbidden piece of music, we knew that the end of the war was in sight. To us that meant home, and home meant everything, rest, dry clothing, an abundance of rations, a soft bed with snow white coverings, and a happy gathering of loved ones whose faces were growing dearer to our hearts each day and hour. Imagine, if you can, the joy which prevailed in our camp as we gathered in small groups and talked of going "Home." If you have never been there, you can only imagine, you can never know. Our mail had been very light since landing on the island. We were practically cut off from the world and the people way up here in the States knew better what was transpiring in our immediate vicinity than did we ourselves. Our lives were limited to our individual companies and we longed to be released from this oblivion.. If the war was over then our usefulness had ceased. If a warning note had been sounded and the men told there was yet danger ahead for the flag, then we would have put "Home" behind us again and never faltered in performing our duties until the hour of peril was past.

A band, composed of natives, marched out to our camp and serenaded us. Among other selections, was one, composed and written by their leader. The words sang the praises of General Miles and the "Americanos."



The musicians twanged and tooted [at this piece of music very earnestly and appeared to be carried away with the realization that they were, or in a short time would be, our countrymen. We were as well pleased as they were but just at that period our thoughts were not with the happy natives, but wandering back to "Old Illinois."

—"Thy prairies and thy valleys, Illinois,  
Illinois."

The rains continued to come on schedule time and the side hill became a toboggan slide. The company streets extended from the bottom to the very top of the hill. Just back of them, on a flat, was the regimental officers quarters. At the foot of the hill, and to the right, General Garrettson and his staff had their tents pitched, while the troops of the Massachusetts regiment were quartered in buildings along the road, near our camp. One battalion of regulars, which formed a part of the division, was also given quarters in the buildings.

In the course of our stay at this camp the officers and men made many trips up and down this hill. Slipping and sticking in turn, the dignified officers performed many acrobatic feats which surprised even themselves, in making the decent. The men looked on and grinned but said nothing. After once making the start it was a certainty that the soldier would reach the bottom of the hill before stopping, but it was a question as to which end he would land on. In forming in company front for roll call or inspection of arms, each man in turn acted as a pillar for the man above him and if some one had given the first man a shove the whole line would have toppled over like a row of ten pins. This camp was given the name of "Camp Mud."

The town of Adjuntas had a population of about one thousand souls, possibly fifteen hundred. The people were kind to us but we found more Spanish sympathizers here than were met along the coast. They were awed by the soldiers and gave us no trouble, but their actions and looks were readily understood by our men. The demand for the American flag was growing and the natives were trading fruits and tobaccos for envelopes and writing paper which were decorated with the stars and stripes. They wore the bits of paper pinned to their sleeves and breasts and stuck them in their hats, proudly proclaiming themselves "Americanos."

Although peace was not declared as yet, we imagined that we would not advance farther but soon return to Ponce, there to embark for home. In this we were disappointed and on the sixteenth of August we broke camp and marched north to Utuado. The battalion of regulars and one battalion of the Sixth Massachusetts boys, had preceded us. The march was a long, hard one and we covered nearly eighteen miles over a trail that was in many places, being cut out by the force of the natives.

As we hove within sight of the camp grounds the Sixth Mass. Band came out to meet us and we swung along the road at a lively pace. We stood in the rain for some time until the site for our camp was pointed out to us. Our shelter tents were pitched nearly a mile from town on a flat near the bank of the Arecibo river. This stream was in every respect more of a river than any other encountered on the island.

The bullock carts were abandoned at Adjuntas, the trail was impassible for them and the supplies were carried forward by pack mules. It was surprising the



Typical Porto Rico Peons and habitations.



amount of weight the drivers strapped to the backs of these animals. They trotted along, the contents of the boxes strapped to their pack-saddles, shaking and rattling, the chuck-a-chuck beating regular time to the movements of the mules. The drivers of the pack mules were not enlisted men but were hired by the government at a salary of from thirty to fifty dollars per month, according to the rank which they held in the outfit. They were typical westerners and appeared to be thoroughly acquainted with the business. It requires no little skill and training to securely fasten the boxes to the pack-saddles. If the fastenings became loosened, the animal would stop and wait for the driver to come up and rearrange the trappings.

A number of ambulances were worked over the trail and a few miles from Adjuntas one of them rolled over the edge of the narrow way and went tumbling and twisting down the mountain, smashing the wagon and killing a horse. One of the pack mules, sure-footed as they appeared to be, lost his balance and found a lodging place among the tree tops below us.

Up to the time of leaving Adjuntas each company had carried its cooking outfit with it. When leaving "Camp Mud," orders were given to the forces working about the mess tents to pack the outfits in such a manner as to make them portable by pack mules. The order was misconstrued in some instances and the camp stove and cooking utensils were stored in the large chests as usual, and instead of being forwarded with the troops, they were taken to a store house and put away with other heavy camp equipment, which could not be moved forward when the bullock carts were abandoned.

When we arrived at Utuado, and order was estab-

lished in the camp, the cooking outfit of some few of the companies failed to put in an appearance and the cooking was thrown upon the men. If the supply of fuel had been adequate, the task of preparing our rations would have been a trifling matter. As it was, we searched far and near and in a very short time every stick of firewood was picked up and burned. Not far from our camp was an open shed and stored in this we found several tons of sugar-cane which had been run through the mill. It was wet, mouldy, and full of small insects, and when coaxed for an hour burned like a wet rag. It was the only available fuel at that time and we were compelled to use it or nothing. Little groups of men gathered in the company streets and kneeling about the smouldering fires, attempted to make their coffee.

The coffee was issued to us in the kernel, along with a meager quantity of hardtack. Arising early in the morning and by dint of much fortitude, the coffee was pounded between a couple of stones, a slow fire started with the cane stalks, and with a strong pair of lungs for a blower, with no accidents occurring, a pint of muddy coffee, which had never come to the boiling point, would materialize by the noon hour. If anything was expected at the supper hour, preparations for the mess must be commenced immediately after dinner. To those who do not understand the meaning of the term "mess," it is only fair to state that to fully comprehend its reference, one must exist for a month or so on the rations issued to an active army in the field. If, at the end of that period, you do not come to the conclusion that the application of the term "mess," is not only appropriate, but stands alone as an expression which de-



finer the breakfast, dinner, or supper of the average soldier, than any attempted explanation on our part would prove futile. For a number of days the soldiers existed on "recollections" and "anticipations," with flat coffee and buggy hardtack for desert. The bill of fare for the morning "mess" consisted of coffee and hardtack, with a change at the noon mess to hardtack and coffee, while at night hardtack alone was served.

With hunger gnawing at their stomachs, some of the men seized every opportunity to secure something eatable. One of them, a sixfooter with broad shoulders, a giant as compared with the average native Porto Rican, made a trip to the town with the avowed intention of not returning until he had secured both food and drink. He was penniless, but nerved to desperation, he in some manner, juggled a rum seller out of several drinks of firewater, and started in search of an eating house. Selecting the one which he judged would set an elaborate table, he entered the place, stalked over to a small table and seated himself. He wore no coat, and picking at the breast of his blue shirt, he attracted the attention of the proprietor and repeated "Americano, Porto Rico."

With a few such exclamations and some sign language, he gave the little yellow man to understand that an "Americano" and a Porto Rican was one and the same and that they were brothers. Then he ordered dinner. Everything that he thought the house might contain and was eatable he ordered brought to him. Throughout the meal he kept pulling at the blue shirt and repeating "Americano, Porto Rico." When everything in sight was eaten, he arose, and started for the door. The little native ran over and placed himself in front of the big



soldier, hurled a jargon of meaningless words at him and attempted to stop his progress toward the door. The burly man in blue forged straight ahead and expressed his brotherly love for the wrathful native by gently pulling at the blue shirt and repeating "Americano, Porto Rico."

The tender feeling of brotherly love was pleasant to the natives under some circumstances, but it would not compensate the proprietor of the house for the dinner eaten by the soldier, which, based upon the rates usually charged the invaders, footed up to something like three or four dollars, Porto Rican coin. Clenching both hands the native shook his fists in the face of "Major," as the soldier was known by his comrades, and made a more determined effort to hold him until he had secured pay for the meal. "Major" was slow to anger but he wanted to get out and continue the search for food. Reaching out one brawny arm he grasped the hand of the native, twisting him to his knees on the floor before him and with an oath, he again repeated "Americano, Porto Rico," and with the disengaged hand plucked once more at the bosom of his blue shirt. The native fairly screamed with pain as the twisting process continued and the instant he was released he jumped to his feet and backing away from the soldier, motioned for him to get out and out he went.

A little farther down the street he came to the entrance of a general store and stepping in he saw a box of dried fish near the door. The fish looked something like herring but were much larger, and tied up in bundles. The "major" picked up a bundle and holding it up to the gaze of a clerk, inquired the price of it. The clerk



Hospital Stewards John Kline and Howard Geyer in Porto Rico.



made some reply, and the "major" looked hard at him and said, "Well! I may return before the sun goes down and if I do I'll drop in and pay you," and walked out. During the night some time, he was picked up by an officer and he rested in the city lockup until the next morning, when he returned to camp.

## CHAPTER XXII.

By the time we arrived at Utuado the men were a sorry looking lot. A number of them were barefooted, and their clothing was hanging to them in shreds. Some few had no trousers at all and went about in their underclothing. With their dilapidated clothing and scraggly beards, they looked more like a gang of bushwhackers than a regiment of Uncle Sam's soldiers. Those that had money to buy with could not purchase clothing as the natives were so much smaller than the Americans that they were unable to find garments large enough for them.

When we were in the States we could get a shave often enough to at least avoid having the appearance of wild men, but on the island it was different and a tonsorial artists outfit, even the most simple, was rarely seen. Some few of the boys had razors that had not seen a strop or hone for months. They had went the rounds of the companies many times since leaving home and were in condition fit to trim corne but not to remove a tough beard of several weeks growth. Once in a while one of the boys would pluck up courage enough to face the ordeal. The preparations were made by placing a blanket on the ground. Stretching out full length on the blanket, with his face upturned to the sky, the "customer" would close his eyes and

await the onslaught of the "barber," who, sitting astride the victim, would commence and continue the work in much the same manner as one who was scraping a hog. The man underneath took his medicine with good grace and arose minus his whiskers, but oft times the face appeared as though the beard had been taken off with a butchers cleaver.

On the twentieth of August, a detail of men from company E, under command of Lieut. Dillon, marched north in the direction of Arecibo and were placed on outpost duty about seven miles in advance of the troops camped at Utuado. This outpost was stationed at the most northern point reached by any troops in the Porto Rican campaign and but a few miles from the northern coast of the island. The boys were quartered in comfortable barracks which had been vacated by the Spanish but a short time previous. The guards were posted along the main road leading to Arecibo. There was considerable traveling over this route at the time and as the duties of the guards made it necessary for them to halt and search each passer by, they met many of the better class of inhabitants, and among them some few who could speak English. They were told that the Spanish soldiers had retreated from Arecibo in the direction of San Jaun, and that the terms of peace were settled and the war was practically over. The postmaster of Arecibo was made a prisoner by the guards and taken, under a guard, to the general camp at Utuado where he was detained for a time but later released and allowed to continue unmolested.

The boys appeared to enjoy the situation, and were in better spirits than they had been for some time. They were snugly located in comfortable quarters and

the weather was exceptionally fine. Upon referring to Corporal Hoobler's diary, which is authentic as it was posted daily, the weather reports show three consecutive days in which there was no rain, certainly it was phenomenal, and with dry clothing and an unusual supply of rations, the results of successful foraging expeditions, the men regained their naturally buoyant spirits and the days slipped by rapidly. At that time it was the supposition of the men that the whole of our division would continue north to Arecibo and there embark for home. The boys of company E, who were on outpost, expected to remain in that locality until the division advanced, but were ordered back to division headquarters where they arrived on the evening of August twenty-fifth.

While on outpost duty, two of the Sterling boys, George Slade and John Lineberry, composed the following poem, dedicated to "Bill Heathcote's Rough Riders."

BILL HEATHCOTE'S ROUGH RIDERS.

Every man who lives remembers  
    How he read when but a child,  
Of the soldier up at Bingen  
    Who in death his chum beguiled.  
How he died without a falter,  
    As he stood in the front line;  
And he also does remember  
    That fair Bingen on the Rhine.

There are other soldiers dying,  
    Just across the raging brine;  
In a place called Porto Rico,  
    And they number twenty-nine;  
They are veterans, are the warriors,  
    And they all have been the rounds,  
They are captained by "Bill Heathcote,  
    And they came from Sterling town.



If the world but knew their courage,  
And what they dared to do;  
How seventeen long days they floated  
Out upon the briny blue,  
How across Porto Rico they are marching  
With their tents and ponchos, too,  
What a tough fight they are making  
For hardtack enough to chew.

How the Spaniards flew before them,  
When they heard Reifsnyder chew,  
How Berlin slowly limped along  
With but a single shoe,  
When Slade could march no longer,  
Because his leg gave out;  
They hauled him in a two wheeled cart  
Behind two oxen stout.

And Lineberry had trouble  
To make the natives understand;  
But there were many others  
In brave Capt. Heathcote's band.  
And there was Leonard Higby  
Weak and wildered, tired and lame,  
And yet he never seemed to falter,  
Kept eating hardtack just the same.

And there were our brave color guards,  
Cal Lindsay, Street and Strock,  
Who marched across the island,  
And never wore a sock.  
How Barney Buckley chattered,  
When Anderson lost his hat,  
And Hankerson, our slimest,  
Is slowly getting fat.

How Hoobler and Moore became footsore,  
On one of our long quarters  
And they languished in the guard house  
All one sad night down in Ponce.  
And how, without apparent cause,  
Sergeant Wildasins tobacco flew,  
And he is looking for it yet  
Just to get a single chew.

How we marched into Adjuntas  
While the cold rain on us beat,  
And we pitched our little shelter tents  
Upon the hillside steep.  
And when the mess call sounded  
Each soldier grabbed his plate,  
And to get his canned tomatoes  
Down the hillside he would skate.

And when Sam Feigley looks in the glass,  
It makes his heart feel glad,  
When he sees his noble whiskers  
And he says, "I look just like dad."  
Sergeant Wagley sits around,  
And rubs his sun-burned neck,  
And vows he is working harder now  
Than he ever did for Peck.

There's Latherow and Wilkinson,  
Whom Uncle Sam hired,  
Tis thought he made a big mistake,  
Because they're always tired.  
And Jim Burr walks with the grace of a knight,  
As he climbs the mountain high,  
And says he is always spoiling for a fight.  
With some of Sol Seely's pie.

How Macke on the outpost  
Met a Porto Rican fair,  
And tried to work a "standin',"  
But Eberle beat him there.  
And that hard march from Ponce  
Merricks had good luck of course,  
And while we toiled up the mountain  
Ed. Merricks rode a horse.

So now you have heard my story,  
A tale so sad and true,  
How they marched through Porto Rico  
In their little suits of blue.  
And they're coming back to Sterling  
Midst their old familiar scenes,  
To tell about the hard times  
When they lived on pork and beans.

In the few lines above, these boys briefly tell the story of their trip and some of the many incidents occurring during their soldier life on the island. The Sterling boys were not dispondent, although the construction of the poem might lead some to think so. They were in fact about the most contented lot of men in the regiment, as contentment goes in the army.

During the wanderings of the men, while in the various camps, they witnessed many strange sights. The customs of the inhabitants of the island were peculiar in many respects. While encamped at Utuado, a party of boys took a stroll about town and among other things of interest they explored the cemetery. As near as we could learn, there was at that time but one cemetery in each province of the island. As a consequence the people living in the country carried their dead for miles on their shoulders to bury them and the death rate among the poorer class being extremely heavy at that time, the sexton was kept very busy attending to the wants of his customers.

The term customers may appear strange as applied to a funeral party, yet when you consider that the sexton was also the undertaker it puts an entirely different face on the matter. As an undertaker, the duties of the sexton were to keep on hand a limited supply of rough boxes, which he hired to the person who had a corpse to bring in for burial. He must see to it that he secures the rental on the rude coffins and as it is a custom to bury in the morning, he is charged with the care of the bodies brought in too late and held over until the following morning.

The coffins which the natives hire to bring in their dead are simply two rough boards for the sides, with

pieces across the ends at the head and foot. Strips of the same material are nailed across the under side of the box. These strips are placed about two inches apart and those on each end extend two feet beyond the side of the box. The corpse is placed in the rough box, four men, one at each corner of the box, place it upon their shoulders and the cortege begins its long tramp to the cemetery, which in many instances is several miles distant.

The little party was always preceded by a man bearing a small wooden cross. The face of the dead was unprotected from the fierce rays of the sun and the procession hurried along with little or no ceremony. Arriving at the cemetery, the body was soon in the ground unless the hour for the burial day had passed. In that case the coffin and contents were placed in charge of the sexton and the burial postponed till the morrow.

The party of exploring soldiers had passed the cemetery several times as it was located on the street which led to the town from our camp. This morning the boys turned up the path which led to the entrance of the burial grounds and as they neared the gate the frowning walls which surrounded the little city of the dead, looked anything but inviting. At the gate they were met by the sexton who appeared courteous as one could wish and they were led inside. On the inner side of the walls and on each side of the entrance was a large room built of stone. In these rooms were stored a number of rough coffins some of which contained bodies soon to be consigned to the grave.

Awed by the presence of the dead, the men

looked about them silently and as they moved about the dark room they came across a small coffin containing the remains of a child, a little girl. Drawing nearer, they saw that the pallid face and hands were nearly white. Clad in a garment of white, with her little hands so thin and wasted as to be almost transparent, folded across her bosom and clasping a small bunch of flowers; with closed eyes and just the faintest semblance of a smile lingering about the corners of her mouth, the little child appeared to be sleeping. There was a look of peace and contentment on the white face which proclaimed that death had come without suffering to the little one.

As the men stood gazing upon the pure face of the dead child, they were visibly affected by the sight and not a word was spoken. Who knows what was in their thoughts at that moment? They may have mourned the loss of one whose innocence, purity, and sweetness was forever pictured on their minds, and the silent form before them, with its childish face may have taken them back to days of yore, or caused their hearts to ache as the memory of a scene in the little church yard back in the states came forcibly to them--the rattle of the earth as it fell on the casket below, the voice of the minister, slowly but distinctly repeating, "dust to dust, ashes to ashes," and the sweet face was hidden from view forever.

Or they may have been thinking of those whom they had left behind them, alive and well when last heard from, but may have been sleeping in the grave for aught they then knew, as news came slowly, and death may have entered the home across the sea weeks before, and they not be aware of it. They were aroused by the entrance of a man and two little boys who came toward

them, and without casting a look at the body, picked up the box and carried it out to the burial grounds.

The men followed and watched the native as he placed the coffin on the ground, and without regard as to location, began to dig a narrow grave. In his downward course he came upon the bones of a body which must have been in the ground for some time. Kicking them out of his way he continued to throw out the earth until he reached a depth of not more than three or four feet, when he placed a cord underneath the corpse, at the knees, and another at the neck, and lifting the body from the rude box, placed it in the shallow grave, picked up a handful of earth, pressed it to his lips, threw it upon the upturned face in the grave and hurriedly covered the silent form. After partially filling the grave he jumped into it and tramped the loose earth down, then completed his task. Without the slightest sign of emotion, the man and two boys, apparently the father and brothers of the dead girl, turned from the grave and returned the rented coffin to the stone room at the entrance and hurried out upon the street.

If that man was the girl's father then he had either a heart of stone or a will of iron, as he was narrowly watched from the beginning of burial and the expression of carelessness never left his face. Not in the slightest did he appear to care whether he was performing the last sad rites for one who should have been the light of his life, or digging a post hole. He did not linger an instant after he had completed his task and he did not glance backward as he hurried away. But beneath that untidy blouse there might have been a bleeding heart, torn with anguish, as he realized that the dear, sweet face, was gone forever. And perhaps far up in the



mountains a fond mother sat alone in her grief, thinking of the little one, on whom in their poverty, she had lavished her all, a mother's love. The prattling voice was stilled and the patter of her footsteps on the rough board floor would cheer the mothers heart no more.

Shortly after the departure of the man and boys, the soldiers roused themselves and looking around saw that the little cemetery was not more than five rods square and surrounded by a high wall of solid masonry. Loop-holes had been cut through the wall and it appeared as though the Spaniards had made preparations to make a stand in this temporary fortress. Within the walls was numerous vaults or tombs. This was where the wealthy people disposed of their dead. Everything was in a dilapidated condition and the front of some of the tombs were broken open. Peering within, human bones, from which the flesh had long ago decayed, lay in perfect order, the complete skeleton exposed to view.

The area contained in the grounds, and the large number of burials which occurred within the walls, had resulted in many skeletons being unearthed in the sinking of fresh graves. A wall had been built diagonally across one corner, and into this space the disinterred bones had been thrown. They had been accumulating for years and as the heavy door well up the wall was thrown open it was found to be full of grinning skulls and human bones of every description. With a feeling of abhorrence the party of soldiers left the place, and it was with a sense of relief that they heard the massive gates close behind them and the sickening sights were shut out from their view by the high stone wall.

Shortly after our arrival at Guanica, Colonel Foster



had been taken sick, and although he remained with the regiment, the duties of the commanding officer fell upon Lieut. Colonel Kittilsen. He was a most popular officer and held in high esteem by the men. His manner was quiet but determined and he fell gracefully into the position as acting colonel. Colonel Foster slowly regained his health and resumed command of the regiment in a short time. The opportunities for drill were scarce as the ruggedness of the country would not permit of more than a practice march. The men were taken out for a march several times while at Utuado, and an attempt was made to give them a company or battalion drill but with poor results.

A half dozen native boys had followed the troops for some time and were about the camp so much that the boys began to experiment on them and endeavored to teach them a little of the English language. They were eager to learn and would repeat a word over and over until they became very proficient in its pronunciation. The soldiers first taught them to swear. With this accomplishment they soon became popular throughout the regiment. Of course the natives thought the boys were sincere and were very proud of their abilities and aired them on every possible occasion. If a soldier spoke to one of them with the air of one expecting a reply, the native would pay strict attention to every word and appear to be weighing it in his mind and looking up innocently, would reply by repeating a string of oaths that would put a drunken sailor to shame.

When we were in camp at Utuado, one of the boys took a machete and going to a stone bridge about a half mile from camp, cut a large bundle of bamboo twigs to put in his tent to sleep on. Rolling the twigs

into a couple of canteen-straps he started for camp. The load was an awkward one and after several ineffectual attempts to keep it under his arms, he rolled it onto his head, native fashion. The loose twigs dragged the ground and nothing could be seen of the soldier excepting his shoes. As he moved toward camp the bundle became heavier and it slipped from side to side scratching his neck and bending his head forward until he became exasperated and was nearly at the point of throwing the whole thing, canteen-straps and all, in the ditch by the roadside. Taken all in all, he was in an unpleasant state of mind and in no humor to take a joke.

As he plodded along, he heard footsteps approaching, and thinking it might be a comrade whom he knew and would assist him, he was about to call to him when the sound of the footsteps ceased and in a moment a hand parted the hanging twigs and a face peered up at him. It was one of the natives who had been hanging about the camp. He had evidently expected to find one of his countrymen under the enormous bundle of twigs as it was seldom a soldier made an attempt to tote anything on the head, and in fact it was an unusual sight to witness a soldier carrying anything heavier than a load of Porto Rican rum. At any rate the native opened his eyes wide with surprise when he saw the blue uniform of a soldier through the mass of brush, and no doubt, wishing in some way to apologize to the "Americano," looked up at him and speaking in English, jerked out a combination of epithets, intermingled with a profusion of oaths, which caused the soldiers blood to boil.

Out of patience with himself in his struggle to keep

the bundle of twigs from getting away from him. Disappointed in not finding the newcomer a comrade who would give him a lift with his troublesome burden, and maddened by the idiotic expression on the face of the native as he repeated his insults, the soldier threw the bundle to the ground and made a dash for the little man dressed in white. The native, innocent of any wrong intent, but proud of his vocabulary, was first surprised and then frightened and he jumped out of reach of the soldier and flew down the road, barely touching the ground, with the soldier a close second. After a short chase, the soldier saw he was being outstripped and coming to a halt, he recovered his senses and sitting down, laughed heartily as he thought of the hours he had spent in teaching this same native how to swear and he saw that the joke had been turned upon himself. With just the slightest feeling of shame he returned to where he had thrown the bundle, and again taking up the burden he continued on to camp.

By this time the condition of a majority of the men was extremely bad. The malarial fever had been working on their systems for sometime. Nearly every man had stomach or bowel trouble and the surgeons were handicapped by an inadequate supply of medicine. They were working hard with what they had, but it was of little avail in many cases and the men grew gaunt and thin. The hospital was filled and the men in camp were not fit for duty. Some kept up by exercising their indomitable will power, with a full determination not to give up until nature gave way entirely.

The weakened condition of the men was undoubtedly due, in a great measure, to the lack of provisions and

the quality of the little that was issued. There was certainly something wrong in connection with the commissary department. Uncle Sam never intended that his soldiers should be half fed. The men were discouraged and sorely disappointed by the treatment they had received since departing from the shores of their country. They had never expected much, yet, when enlisting as soldiers, they had not considered the salary, cared little what duties might be imposed upon them, but felt they were entitled to plain substantial food enough to keep them in bodily health and strength.

To this day, the men who were either robbed of their rations, or through neglect allowed to suffer for want of them, cannot say positively where the trouble was, or who the guilty ones were that lined their pockets with ill gained wealth at the expense of the men in the ranks. The regiment had been on the island just one month, yet had some of their friends chanced to appear in their midst it is doubtful if some of the soldiers would have been readily recognized as the robust, light hearted troops, who, a few weeks previous had eagerly awaited the summons to go to the front.

It does not appear possible that any man who was a citizen of the United States could be guilty of scheming against the American soldier, and it is possible that such was not the case and the fault lay with the inexperience of the officers who were charged with the care of the men. At any rate the fact could not be disguised that there was a terrible wrong being done the men, and if intentional, the law has yet to be framed which would deal out the punishment which such a crime deserved.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

On the twenty-fifth of August, orders were received to return to Ponce at once and as soon as transports could be provided we were to embark for home. The following morning the return march was begun. With our band leading we marched down the roadway, our faces turned homeward. We had but fairly made the start when it began to rain and it continued to come down all day. The force of natives had been kept continually at the work of opening the trail and had succeeded in a measure. Here and there huge rocks rose up in the very center of the trail. These were yet to be blasted and broken up. The daily downpour of rain made the task of building roads an everlasting one as the trail that was opened one day might be blocked with earth and rocks the next.

The regiment arrived at Adjuntas late in the afternoon. On the outskirts of the town, as we came in, we forded a stream which was a raging torrent for a time, caused by the heavy rain during the day. We had crossed the stream when advancing to Utuado but at that time the current was sluggish and the water shallow. Some of the men would not make the attempt and remained on the opposite banks until the water had subsided. A little party of soldiers crept into an abandoned

hut close to the stream and partly up the mountain, awaiting for the storm to abate. As they lay in the single room, enshrouded in darkness, the little building gave a lurch and went crashing down into the water. Luckily for the men, the walls separated and they escaped injury.

The shelter tents were first pitched in the square in the center of the town but the rain loosened the tent-pins and the tents could not be kept standing. After several futile attempts were made, the men were moved to another part of the town and given quarters in a mill. They were packed in the enclosure like sardines but they were in the dry and as they were very weary soon rolled up in the wet blankets and slept.

A short distance out from Utuado we came upon a native traveling in the direction of Adjuntas. A couple of the boys enlisted him in their service and transferred their heavy rolls to his shoulders. He trotted along by their side for some time evincing no sign of fatigue but evidently not satisfied with the arrangement. He could not speak a word of English, couldn't swear even, but by his actions he made them understand that he wished to possess the rifle of one of the boys. To please him the soldier removed the roll from his shoulders and gave him his gun, canteen and haversack, retaining his cartridge belt and bayonet. Before giving him possession of the gun, the cartridges were removed from the magazine as a precautionary measure should the native be inclined to treachery. A prouder man no one ever saw than was this happy Porto Rican. His eyes shone with delight and he pranced through the mud like a two year old



colt. And he wouldn't return the outfit but clung to it until we reached camp. Even then he remained with the boys for some time and every action spoke his pleasure in being permitted to carry the soldier's outfit.

When the regiment marched away from Utuado it left a number of sick men in the hospital there. They were to be brought to Ponce in an ambulance. The start was delayed and with a clear trail, it was a question with the driver whether they would complete the journey before nightfall or not. The teams could move but slowly at the best and they struggled through the mud at a snails pace. The driver was a thirsty fellow and pulled up his team at the sight of every habitation and leaving the ambulance made a bee line for the house to secure a drink of rum. They had not covered many miles when their further progress was checked and they were brought to a standstill by a barrier of rocks and earth which had been dislodged by the heavy rain and slid down the mountain completely blocking the trail for a thousand feet.

Night would soon be upon them but it was impossible to proceed and they would not turn back. The sick boys in the ambulance groaned when they were informed they would be compelled to pass the night where they were. With nothing to eat and it utterly out of the question to attempt to build a fire, the outlook was far from pleasing. Weakened by sickness until they were unable to sit upright, they huddled together within the covered ambulance and the long hours dragged wearily on. The rain did not cease and they became chilled to the marrow. To make the situation more aggravating the driver, who by the way



was the only attendant accompanying them, turned his mules loose and struck out in search of a native home, there to indulge in his favorite pastime, drinking rum. He evidently was successful in the search as he did not return until the following morning.

The sick men were soon without water and suffered severely. How they passed the night, they themselves hardly knew. The next morning Dr. Rummell gained possession of an old white mule and went back to their assistance. It was an unpleasant situation and the approach of daylight did not improve matters materially. One course alone was open to them and this was to carry the sick men over the blockade, take the ambulance apart, drag it over in sections and set it up on the other side. This was no small chore, but willing hands soon had matters set aright and the hearts of the sick men were gladdened as the ambulance rolled away from the spot where they had spent such a miserable night. It was one of the most severe trials experienced by any of the men throughout the campaign, and the victims, who were in a serious condition at the outset, were made much worse by it.

Dr. Rummell was indefatigable in his work at all times. He did not wear the marks designating him as a commissioned officer. He was simply a man in the ranks detailed to the hospital corps. But for all this he did the work of an assistant surgeon faithfully. He was an excellent physician and turned from a good practice to enlist. He did not appear to give the matter a thought that he was performing duties which should have paid him a salary equal to that received by those who were working by his side. If he did not receive fitting remuneration from the government in the way

of dollars he won the eternal gratitude and lasting friendship of the men and he was given a warm place in their hearts. The medical corps was composed of earnest workers and each one of its members will always be remembered as faithful performers of their duties and firm friends of the soldiers. Major Anthony of Sterling, Ass't Surgeon Robbins of Dixon, Dr. Rum-mell of company B, (Geneseo) and Hospital Stewards Kline, Geyer and Brown, of Sterling. all combined their efforts to the end of giving the men the best possible attention and medical assistance, although at times greatly handicapped by a lack of supplies. The men understood the circumstances and will never forget the many acts of kindness received at the hands of the medical staff of the Sixth.

The Sixth Massachusetts boys were retained at Utuado for garrison duty and did not make the start home for a month or more. Some one of the hospital corps of our regiment must remain there and assist the Massachusetts corps. The lot fell upon Ralph Humphrey, previously of company I, but who had been transferred to the hospital service of the regular army while at Camp Alger. It will be remembered that the men who were transferred from the volunteer to the regular service received verbal promises that they would be allowed to follow their regiments where ever they went. Up until this period the promise had been lived up to but when our regiment turned back, Ralph was compelled to remain in the mountains.

One can easily imagine his feelings as he saw us marching away. Watching the disappearing column, he looked for the last time on the faces of his comrades. He no doubt was buoyed up with the hope that he

might be relieved before the regiment embarked on the transport. But if such was the case he was disappointed for we never saw him alive again. We left him there among new found friends and comrades, and from information contained in letters received from the stewards in charge of the hospital, it was afterward learned that he never once uttered a word of protest against remaining, but realizing that it was not for him to say what his duties should be, he continued the work of caring for his sick comrades without faltering and won the love and esteem of all those with whom he came in contact.

The morning following our arrival at Adjuntas, on the return march, was wet and stormy. As we were in comfortable quarters, permission was granted us to remain there for the day. The weather improved in the afternoon and the footsore and those who were sick, yet able to remain with the regiment, were placed in charge of orderly sergeants and started for Ponce. It was the intention of Colonel Foster to make the remainder of the journey in a single days march. The next morning we made the start. The weather was fair and the trail descended rapidly as we were then over the crest of the mountain range and were making the downward journey.

Arriving at Gagos, we rested for a short time and ate our scanty dinner. We did not tarry long at this place as we were anxious to reach Ponce. We halted in the afternoon at a point about three miles from the city and there pitched our tents on an elevated plain. This was on Sunday, August twenty-eighth. We had been on the island one month and three days, yet to us it seemed we had seen nothing but mud and mountains

for nearly a year. Shortly after our arrival we were issued the wall tents and what a relief it was to be able to stand upright under a canvas cover.

On the return trip from Adjuntas a couple of band boys were trudging along, keeping a sharp lookout for stray chickens or ducks. At last they found some but they were guarded by a watchful native. The boys could not get an opportunity to "lift" one so they formed a plan whereby they could get possession of it. They had a little money between them, but the price of one dollar, which the shrewd native placed upon the duck they selected, was more than they cared to invest at that time. One of the boys tucked the duck under his arm and walked away while the other remained and put up a long argument with the native, with the object of detaining him until his comrade had put a considerable distance between them.

With the soldier talking in English, and the native replying in Spanish, neither one comprehending the conversation of the other, the argument progressed slowly. Jingling the few pieces of coin which he possessed, the soldier ostensibly made an effort to induce the native to reduce his price. The Porto Rican was arbitrary and would make no concessions. He had grasped the outward intentions of the soldier and evidently thought if he held his ground he would eventually get his price. As the form of the soldier who had possession of the duck grew fainter in the distance and finally disappeared around the mountain, the owner of the fowl became suspicious then angry. The soldier who had remained, concluding his comrade had been given a good start, again jingled the loose coins in his pocket, politely informed the native to journey on to

hides, and laughing at the discomfitted man, turned out on the trail and hurriedly followed in the footsteps of his comrade. Not until then did it dawn upon the native that the boys had no intentions of giving him anything in return for the fowl and his rage knew no bounds. Shaking his clenched fists at the receding man in blue and howling like an Indian, he made a movement forward as though he would follow him, but had not proceeded far when the soldier halted and made as though intending to return. Then the native stopped suddenly and hurling a parting shot at the soldier disappeared in the brush. The man with the duck sat down and awaited the coming of his comrade, when together, they proceeded until feeling safe from pursuit, then dressed the fowl, built a fire and ate their dinner, all the while congratulating themselves on the success of their plan.

Although camped within a few miles of the wharf at Ponce, where tons upon tons of supplies were stored, our rations did not materially improve. We did get a quantity of canned hamburger-steak but it soon disappeared and we fell back on hardtack and sowbelly. About a half mile below us a battery of the Seventh Light Artillery was camped. A number of our boys made regular trips to this camp about mess time and for a while received a warm welcome. The men of the artillery were being well fed and had rations to spare. They generously shared with our boys until their officers put a stop to it. They told us they had never seen the time since entering the service that they had not been well supplied with rations and could hardly credit our stories when we informed them how we had been existing.



With nothing to do but keep our spirits up while awaiting the order to embark, many of the boys made regular trips to the city. To remain in camp and lie about on the damp ground was only to aggravate the sorry condition of their fever infected systems and although barely able to stand, many of them forced themselves to keep on their feet and felt better, if much wearied, from the six mile tramp to town and return. There were many other regiments represented in and about the city, but one could distinguish a member of our regiment from that of any other as far as he could be seen. With clothing ragged and dirty, rough beards and dilapidated footgear, or perhaps barefooted, tanned brown from continued exposure to the weather, worn thin and gaunt by lack of provisions and the ravages of disease, but with a devil-may-care bearing, they contrasted strangely with the neat, rugged appearance of the other troops met with.

If other proof was lacking, this in itself was sufficient to convince us that our experiences had been much more severe than those of any other troops we had so far encountered. True we had not been in an engagement with the enemy, with the exception of the skirmish participated in by company G, the first morning after our arrival at Guanica. But it is a well known fact that in all active armies of the world, bullets work less destruction than disease, and the hardest worked lot of men in the army, and those having much responsibility resting on their shoulders are the surgeons and corps of assistants. The men may be half clothed and illy fed, but it seldom occurs that they enter an active campaign short of ammunition. This vital point is never overlooked.

If it does occur that the supply of ammunition is not

equal to the occasion, then the advance or attack is delayed until the stock is replenished. There are exceptions to this but they are rare indeed. Why then is it such a difficult problem to forward rations and hospital supplies to the front? In our short campaign we had concluded that the difficulty lay between two evils, red tape or negligence. In the case of a heavy engagement where thousands were slain or wounded and the needs of the men increased a hundred fold it is an entirely different matter and there is some excuse for a shortage of supplies.

When the conditions are normal, or in other words, when an army of ten thousand or one hundred thousand men are put in the field, the officials can, without difficulty, determine the amount of supplies necessary to provide each man, and it is their duty to see that he receives them. It would be an easy matter for one who has the authority, and the health and comfort of the men in mind, to make a tour of the camps at the proper hour and see for themselves how they are being taken care of. If undesirable conditions are found, then let them take the matter up through the proper channel and push it vigorously until the wrong is set aright. If the course of procedure is slow and difficult, then why allow officials to remain in charge of the work who have proven themselves negligent or incapable?

The men have but little opportunity to look to their own comfort in the way of supplies. When taking the oath and donning the blue uniform, they trust to God and the government. They are a party to an agreement, whereby they willingly place their lives at the disposal of their country.

In return, they are to receive a remuneration of a



few dollars per month and a certain amount of clothing and rations. Their compensation is based upon this allowance and when the supplies are not delivered to them, the contract is broken and the men are defrauded with no chance of having the matter adjusted.

The regulations provide for a moneyed reimbursement where the rations or clothing are not drawn by the men. But to avail themselves of this proviso a strict account must be kept as to what portion of the allowance has not been drawn and is yet forthcoming. It also provides that a supply of requisition blanks will be furnished and must be used in drawing on the different departments for supplies. At stated periods a report must be forwarded giving in detail each item for which a shortage is claimed. If this report is delayed or overlooked, then it is taken for granted that there is nothing due the men and their accounts are balanced accordingly. In every way, the regulations cover the question completely and the course of action is made clear, but where it errs is in not providing each volunteer company with a stenographer and bookkeeper, who could keep an account of the many details, and an attorney who could prosecute a claim and keep it moving through its tortuous channels.

In the Spanish-American war the hand of Providence appeared to be with us at every turn and had the government, or the men whom the government placed in responsible positions, charged with the welfare of the soldiers, done their duty, their simple duty, then there would have been but little cause for the men to make complaint. The men expected, and were willing to endure hardships. Not for an instant did they carry the idea they were on a holiday excursion or making a tour of foreign lands on pleasure bent. Expecting but little

they were terribly disappointed in even that. The volunteer appointments seemed to be made not on the merits of the applicant, but his political pull alone was considered. The man of ability was forced into the background and the preference given to the politician. This in reference to the men who were issued commissions bearing an attractive rank, whose duties, (as they saw them) were to wear a spotless uniform and draw a handsome salary, not the officers in the field who were brought face to face with all the privations of an enlisted man. Such positions as those were little sought after by the hungry man with a pull.

The regular army officer had been given a five years' training in the art of war at West Point and had been taught the mode of procedure in taking action in almost any emergency that might arise. Besides this, the majority of those in the service during the late war had years of experience which taught them much that could not be learned in any other manner. These men, when connected with the volunteer troops, were placed in positions of such high rank that a protest from the men was usually shelved before reaching them.

The troops in Porto Rico were in an unenviable position. Separated from home and friends by hundreds of miles of land and sea, in active service in a foreign country and a tropical climate, among a strange people, illy fed and poorly clad, their stories of privations which did reach home discredited and laughed to scorn, with no one in authority who appeared to care whether the men suffered unnecessarily or not, and those who did and made an effort to adjust matters found their work blocked at every turn, disease dwindling the ranks of men fit for duty down to a mere nothing, and this all

within less than six weeks. Such was the situation on the first of September. Is it surprising that they early became disgusted with the life they were leading?

In dwelling upon this matter it would be well to consider that to one sitting in the home, with all its pleasant surroundings; provided with all the necessities of life, with dry clothing, wealthy in the possession of health and with an unconscious sense of contentment pervading the soul, for such an one it is difficult to fully comprehend the true situation. They may picture, in their imagination, themselves placed in just such a situation but they cannot realize the effect of it all. Experience alone can bring this about. No picture can portray it. The veterans of the 60's understand. Many of them experienced years of soldier life. They were brought face to face with dangers which we never met. Many of them more than once were in the midst of scenes of carnage, where the blood ran red and the dead were strewn all about them.

These were experiences of which we knew nothing. But on the other hand they were in their own country, a few hours ride would land them at the door of their own homes. The climate differed little from that to which they had been accustomed all their lives. A successful foraging expedition replenished the ration supply, and in various ways their position differed from that of the men who were serving in a foreign land. This comparison is not drawn with the intention of in any manner attempting to place our services or experiences on an equal with those of the civil war veteran. But to point out how, in some respects, the conditions varied and brought about entirely different results.

No class of citizens in the republic, not actually par-



"Falling of the tents." Last camp near Ponce,



ticipating in the civil war, realize more fully the many privations endured by the soldiers of the war of the rebellion, than does the men who saw actual service in the war with Spain. Standing as they did the keystone of our Union, preservers of a republic, the greatness of which has placed it at the front among the first nations of the world, those soldiers of Abraham Lincoln, are admired, respected and loved by our whole people, and especially so by the soldiers of a younger generation, the volunteers of 1898. We shall ever touch our hats in respectful salutation to them and in after years, when the last one has answered the final summons, then shall we consider it our sacred duty to strew flowers o'er their graves and plant the banner which they loved in life on the mounds which mark their resting places. The memory of those men will be fondly cherished for all time.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

During the few weeks which elapsed between the date of the entrance of our regiment into Ponce on its way to the front, and its subsequent return enroute to the States, there had been visible changes wrought in the appearance of the main portion of the town. A number of the business houses had been newly painted in attractive colors. Before, the sameness of the shades of every building wearied the eye and gave the town an unattractive aspect. The interior of many of the store buildings had been cleaned and on the shelves we found a surprising quantity of American goods, and above the doors of several of the stores, signs had been placed which informed the soldiers that English was spoken by one or more of the courteous clerks.

Some few of the boys managed in some way to secure a little money and purchased various articles which they carefully packed to be taken home to their friends. Down near the wharf, an American conducted a sutlers store. His main stock in trade consisted of tobaccos and goods of such nature which the soldiers would be willing to part with their scanty horde of money to secure. One of the boys from Whiteside county went down to purchase a supply of tobacco for his comrades who were less fortunate than he and had no money to make a purchase with. His bill of goods amounted to about seven dollars



and he gave the sutler a ten dollar bill from which to take the amount of the purchase. The sutler was a nervous, excitable man, and during the transaction high words were exchanged in reference to the price of the goods. He had not regained his composure, and picking up the currency, turned to the cash drawer and counting out the change, stepped over to the board counter, and placed the ten dollar bill, which the soldier had but a moment before given him, together with the change, on top of the parcel of tobacco.

The soldier took the situation in at a glance and making an excuse grabbed the package and the thirteen dollars and hurriedly left the place. The moment he stepped on the street he selected a route which wound in and out among the buildings and soon brought him to the center of the town. Even then he did not feel comfortable and kept a sharp lookout for a possible pursuer but none appeared. It is safe to say that man never entered the sutler's store again. He was an even ten dollars to the good on the deal and out at camp it took him about fifteen minutes to dispose of the tobacco for more than double the price he was supposed to have paid the sutler, taking an I. O. U. in each case for settlement.

While we were in this, our last camp on the island, Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant, Rudolph Hicks, of Galena, succumbed to typhoid fever. He was ill but a short time but he suffered much. He was quite a large man and up until within a few days of taking to the hospital, had the appearance of one in perfect health. During the last hours before life left him it required the combined strength of several men to keep him on his cot. The news of his death was a shock to

every man in the regiment. He was popular with everyone and held in high esteem by the men. He was buried on the island with military honors. Corporal Rees Dillon of company E who had assisted in this department at different times was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The transport *Manitoba*, lay out in the harbor and we were waiting for her to discharge her cargo and be put in readiness for us. It was slow work and the carpenters sent out to her had much to do before we could board her. It was then but a question of a few days when we would leave the island for home. It would never do to put us on shore at New York in the condition we were then in, consequently a supply of clothing was issued to the regiment and the men informed they would be expected to equip themselves with sufficient wearing apparel to make a good appearance when disembarking in the States. We were not anxious to return looking so rough, yet we felt that if we did, our appearance would be silent but overwhelming testimony to substantiate the stories which had gone to our homes in advance of us. But it was determined that such a thing would not be allowed and of course we had no choice but to do as we were bid.

The work of issuing the clothing had but fairly begun when orders were received to break camp and march to the wharf, a distance of about five miles. The orders came to us at noon on the sixth of September, and contained the information that we were to strike tents at two thirty that afternoon, and have everything in readiness to march out of camp at three. At the appointed time every tent fell at the beat of a drum, the little city of tents disappearing as if by magic. The



Returning to the United States.



tents were soon rolled up and with the other heavy baggage was taken to the street and placed in readiness for the wagons.

At three o'clock we marched out headed by the band and we bade good bye to "Camp Starvation." As we arrived opposite the camp of the artillerymen, Colonel Foster halted us and we gave them three rousing cheers and a goodbye. In reply, they fired a salute of several guns. We heard many of them express the wish that they might accompany us home now that the war was over. As we neared the center of the city the band struck up, playing marches and patriotic airs. About a mile from the wharf we passed the camp of the Nineteenth regulars, and below them a short distance two or three companies of the Second Wisconsin. The remainder of their regiment had embarked for the States several days before and they were anxiously waiting for a transport in which to follow them.

We were soon at the wharf and found the Manitoba lying a short distance out in the bay. The horses were loaded before we arrived, a portion of our baggage had arrived and details of men were soon at work loading the barges. Darkness was upon us before much had been accomplished, but by the aid of lanterns the work continued as it was hoped that by making a special effort everything would be in readiness for an early start the following morning. We lay around on the ground and on boxes without supper, our provision wagons not getting in until after midnight.

We remained on the wharf all night and at nine o'clock the following morning assembly was sounded and we were soon on barges on our way to the boat. After boarding her we lay there until six o'clock in the

evening taking on baggage; then taking a parting look at the city we put out to sea.

On board we found 800 canvas hammocks. These we soon had arranged and we were not long in turning into them. The boat was of good size, 460 feet in length with 48 feet beam, there being four decks besides the saloon deck. She was an English boat and manned by an English crew. The government had either purchased or leased her, and she was used as a Quartermaster's supply boat. Her decks were very wet and dirty throughout the whole voyage, contrasting strangely with the neatness and cleanliness on board the U. S. S. Columbia.

Accommodations for cooking were very poor, not being able to make any thing but coffee. Shortly after midnight our boat dropped anchor off the western coast of the island, lying there until daylight then entering the harbor of Mayaguez, where we took on ice. It looked very inviting for us as we had nothing to drink but condensed sea water which was very warm, but we were disappointed when we learned we would not be allowed any ice to use in the water. It was for the boat's crew and our officers.

We left the harbor at 10:30 a. m. and continued on our course direct to New York. Nothing of importance occurred on board, everything going well until Sunday evening when we encountered a storm, and the boat was taken out of its course to avoid colliding with a water spout which could be plainly seen a short distance ahead. From this time until we entered the harbor at New York the wind blew a gale, retarding the speed of the boat considerably and making the sea quite rough.

Sunday, Chaplain Ferris held church services on board and in the course of his talk he referred to the manner in which we had been fed while on the island. He said, "It was the work of a few mean, contemptible, damnable men, and they alone were the cause of all the suffering from lack of food. They were unfit to be called men." He scored them hard but not more than they deserved. This caused the boys to applaud loud and long. But why was it nothing had been said of this before. The devilish work had been going on for six or eight weeks and now we were on our way home it seemed rather late in the day, and if the matter had been taken up before we might have received some benefit from it.

Tuesday morning we sighted land and all was excitement from that time until we landed. Oh! how inviting it looked,—possibly because it was home. This was "God's country" as Col. Foster was pleased to term it. The sick and down-hearted brightened up and everyone was cheerful. As we came slowly into the harbor small tugs and steam yachts came sailing out to greet us, whistles were blown continually, and all was confusion.

The water was full of ferry boats, excursion steamers, tugs, sailing boats and yachts. They sailed around us, some following us up the bay, all whistling and snorting, every one cheering us and waving hats, handkerchiefs and umbrellas. We stopped at the quarantine station and an officer came on board. He had been with us but a few moments when we noticed a small tug boat which had been following us some time steam along side. General Garrettsen and several of his staff were taken on board the tug-boat where the General's



wife and a number of friends were waiting to receive him. This we knew meant no quarantine for us and soon we were on the move once more.

As we neared the statute of Liberty we again slowed down and came to a standstill. Our boat signalled several times, by whistling, and shortly the harbor master's tug came along side and after another short delay, we continued up North river to the docks of the West Shore Railroad in Weehawken where our vessel was made fast and our sea voyage terminated. This was about three o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, September thirteenth.

We were not allowed to go ashore until the following day when everyone was given the privilege of visiting New York across the river. Crowds of the boys crossed on the ferry-boats which transported them free. The people of New York and Weehawken treated us royally and nearly every man who came in on the boat was given a good meal. This was appreciated as it had been sometime since they had sat at a table and ate food like white men. Cigars and fruits in abundance were given freely. Congressman George Prince was an early caller to welcome the boys back to their homes and he gave each Captain ten dollars to expend for food for the men. Through him we were also issued soft bread.

The cargo of baggage and horses was unloaded Wednesday and at ten o'clock that night we boarded the cars for Springfield, arriving there about ten thirty Friday night. We left the cars at the uptown station and marched to Camp Lincoln, occupying the tents which had been vacated a short time previous by the men of the Fifth regiment.

The boys of the Fifth were a very disappointed lot. It will be remembered that the Third and Fifth regiments were mustered into the volunteer service in advance of the Sixth, and they carried the idea that they would get to the front long before the boys of our regiment. In this they were mistaken as we landed in Porto Rica some little time ahead of the Third, and the boys of the Fifth, poor fellows, never got far from the shores of their own country. They were twice ordered to embark for Porto Rica, but each time were called back. At one time they had so far proceeded as to board a vessel and had put out to sea when the command was given calling them back, and they realized that their hopes were blasted and they must be content with the lot which befell them.

Our trip from New York to Springfield was thoroughly enjoyed by the boys. They were met by cheering hospitality at every stopping place along the route, and sympathetic mothers made great inroads on their stores of canned goods. It seemed to us that they must have been preparing for our coming for weeks as the number of pies, cakes and cans of jelly given us was little short of astonishing. Great cans of pure, sweet milk were brought into the cars and carried from one end to the other and an open invitation was extended to each man to to fill his cup as often as he liked. Large baskets of various kinds of fruits were brought to the train and bushels of sandwiches were found at almost every stopping place.

In exchange for these gifts of food the people asked nothing in return except some little thing as a button, or a bullet. The craze appeared to settle on the cartridges, and at every window there would be found a man, woman

or child petitioning us to "gimme a bullet." This continued until our cartridge belts were empty and we had nothing more to give. The name of one man was in the mouth of nearly every person we met in passing through the state of New York, Theodore Roosevelt. "Roosevelt is all right, isn't he?" "What do you think of Roosevelt?" and "Roosevelt will be our next Governor." Such remarks were heard on every side at each stopping place and it was readily seen that the citizens of the state of New York were extremely proud of the gallant officer and intended to honor him by placing him in the highest office within their gift.

Leaving Weehawken in the night, we covered many miles before the dawn of the following day and we were given an opportunity to witness the beauties of the Keystone State. Our train arrived at Kingston at one thirty a. m. and although it was in the dead of the night the whole town seemed to be astir and waiting for us. The people could not do enough for us and everything was as free as air. Cana Joharie was reached at six a. m. It is a nice looking town with an old ivy covered stone church which was very picturesque. For several miles after leaving this town the road ran beside the Erie canal.

Ilion was reached at six-fifty. A little farther up the road a half dozen hobos had a fire built and were getting their breakfast. Some of the boys began to sing "Comrades." We pulled into Syracuse at nine a. m. and found the citizens much excited over a suicide. The train came to a standstill in Buffalo at three p. m. Here we saw the Ninth New York boys who had just come from Chickamauga. The Thirteenth Infantry, regulars, whose barracks are here, had also arrived but a few hours in advance of us. We were switched to the Nickle Plate

road and at four-thirty we were off once more.

At five twenty-five we sighted Lake Erie and a short time later ran through Silver Creek, one of the prettiest little towns on our route. Vineyards were seen on every hand and the fruit gave the air a peculiarly fragrant odor. We entered Pennsylvania at seven p. m. and rolled into Erie a half hour later. A large crowd was waiting to welcome us. The railroad passes directly down a busy street and at every crossing a crowd cheered and waved handkerchiefs. Here as at every other stopping place, the cry was, "Mister, please give me a bullet."

We struck Cleveland about midnight where coffee, milk, and sandwiches were served. We remained in the town about thirty minutes. New Haven was reached at eight o'clock in the morning, where we overtook the second section of our train. Several boxes of canned peaches were sent to us by the merchants of the city. After a short delay our train was switched to the Wabash and we were soon in the Hoosier State where "The frost was on the pumpkin and the fodder in the shock."

Peru was reached about noon. At Lafayette we were treated to more sandwiches, bread, jelly, pickles, grapes and peaches. It is not surprising that numbers of the boys were ill for weeks, after eating everything in sight from New York to Illinois. In the middle of the afternoon we stopped a few moments at a little station which bore the name of State Line, and we were once more in Illinois. We made a short stop at Danville and the train remained for some time at Decatur. It was after ten o'clock on the night of September sixteenth when we arrived at Springfield. Marching out to camp we found sandwiches and coffee prepared for us by the citizens and the following morning they served breakfast

for us.

When our train left New York, there were a number from the regiment who were too much taken up with the sights of the metropolitan city to return to the wharf in time to board the train. We left them to return as best they could, not expecting to see them for some time. Imagine our surprise when we debarked at the passenger depot at Springfield to find them there in advance of us. They had secured transportation through one of the many officers in New York and had gone around the northern route, through Canada, and fortunately for them, made quick time to Springfield.

Immediately on our arrival at camp Lincoln we began the work of preparing muster and pay-rolls, and we were informed we would be granted a sixty day furlough on full pay, after the expiration of which we would probably be returned to Springfield and mustered out of the service. Ordnance supplies were turned in and checked up and everything made ready as rapidly as possible for our departure for home.





Company I as it appeared five days after returning from Porto Rico.





## CHAPTER XXV.

Many friends and relatives of the returning volunteers came to Springfield to welcome them home. Between the work of making ready for an early departure for home and visiting with friends the days passed quickly but none too much so for the boys who were all anxious to get away. A committee from Morrison and another from Sterling, assisted by many others from in and about our home towns, took the soldiers under their especial charge and saw to it that nothing was wanting which money could purchase. Every setting of the table was a banquet and the boys were not slow to take advantage of the opportunity and they stowed the good things away with a relish and scant ceremony.

The Sunday following our arrival at Camp Lincoln, the members of Company E were pleasantly surprised by the citizens committee from Sterling and Rock Falls, who extended them an invitation to attend a banquet to be given at the Leland hotel in their honor. At seven fifteen in the evening they assembled, and marching to the entrance of the grounds, found street cars awaiting to convey them to the city. Arriving at the hotel at eight, the supper was served soon afterwards. The steaks were done to a turn, the omelets were perfection, the cold meats were better than usual and the coffee was the best

money could purchase. The cakes and jellies were all that mortal man could desire and the boys were unanimous in proclaiming it the most enjoyable meal they had partaken of for months.

The colored waiters stood ready to replenish the supply at a moment's notice and appeared eager to assist in every way possible to make the occasion a pleasant one. One of the amusing incidents of the evening was the unanimous refusal of the pork and beans. The dish was passed to everyone present and in nearly every instance it was untouched. The boys absolutely refused to have anything to do with them. The colored waiters saw the joke and enjoyed it fully as much as did the guests at the banquet.

The boys ate long and heartily, and did but little talking, and no time was wasted. At the conclusion of the repast, cigars were passed around and while the soldiers sat at their places, quietly and peacefully puffing away at the rich Havanas, a number of good speeches were made. C. L. Sheldon, the chairman of the committee, was the toastmaster. In as few words as possible he congratulated the boys on their safe return home. "You have succeeded," said he "in writing another page of American history which will take place along with the civil war. You have assisted in emancipating a race and giving it liberty. We are here to congratulate you this evening in the name of the people of Sterling, because, while you have suffered great privations and hardships, you have done a great good to humanity in the name of humanity." Continuing in this strain for a few moments Mr. Sheldon closed his remarks by calling upon Colonel Foster, who was present as a guest, to respond to the toast, "The Sixth Regiment," which was drank by all

standing.

The colonel replied briefly, and in the course of his remarks said that company E had done everything to the best of its ability. It had done everything it had been asked to do, and did it without complaining. Chaplain Ferris, and Captain Colebaugh of Company I, each spoke briefly, expressing their pleasure at being present. When Major Anthony was called upon he was compelled to wait some minutes before the applause died down sufficiently to make himself heard. His remarks were brief but he expressed his satisfaction in the boys getting back to Springfield in as good condition as they were.

Mayor Miller then addressed the boys, telling them he was proud to be present and proud to be there in the name of the city of Sterling to welcome company E. He told the boys that the people at home were all proud of them, that they regretted to see them leave home, particularly because of the serious errand, and that they were doubly glad at their return, and when they arrived home the town would be theirs. His sincere words were greeted with prolonged applause. Ex-Mayor Street gave a short talk and was followed by Robert McNeil, representing the people of Rock Falls. Lieutenants Dillon and Wahl each spoke briefly and the affair was over.

The boys of company E appreciated the welcome extended them and knew that this was only a forerunner of what they might expect when they finally reached their homes. The members of company I were royally treated by the citizens committee, headed by Sheriff Fuller, which was sent to Springfield to represent the people of Morrison and surrounding towns.

Monday we received two months pay and the remainder of the stay at Camp Lincoln was spent by

the boys in getting rid of their hard earned money. Orders were issued granting the men of the Sixth Regiment, sixty days furlough to take effect the twenty-first. A number of boys from both companies were taken to the military hospital in Springfield. Malarial fever was the general complaint. In their weakened condition the disease was severe on them and a number were unable to return home with the companies. These men were left to the care of the medical corps at the hospital where they received the best of care and although some of them were seriously ill for a time, they all came home later.

At one o'clock on the morning of the twenty-first of September the train bearing the returning soldiers pulled away from Camp Lincoln. Our route was over the Burlington as far as Sterling, where we arrived about ten o'clock a. m. After company E had debarked, the remaining coaches occupied by company I were hurried to Morrison. At every town along the route we were greeted by large and enthusiastic crowds, and when we left the cars in our home towns, the reception extended us baffles description. Company E was marched to its armory which had been placed at the disposal of the many relatives of the boys and those dear to them. There the first tender greetings were exchanged. Company I was taken direct to the court house hill where they were welcomed home by what appeared to them, the inhabitants of the whole of the western half of Whiteside county.

Home again, home again,  
From a foreign shore,  
And oh! it fills our hearts with joy  
To meet our friends once more.

Here we dropped the parting tear,  
To cross the ocean's foam,  
But now we're once again with those,  
Who kindly greet us home.

Fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters and sweethearts were there to extend a first welcome. From the train the boys were escorted by G. A. R. Posts, bands, organizations and school children. The line of march was black with people and all cheered and aided in making the welcome a royal one. Arrangements had been made whereby the citizens were to receive news of our coming by the ringing of bells and blowing of whistles. Business was suspended for the time and the returning soldiers were given the first place in the thoughts of nearly every man, woman and child. The crowds were more dense and enthusiastic, if such could be, than those present when the good-byes were said five months before.

Such a welcome home! The boys, surrounded by relatives and friends, each vying with the other in an attempt to make the welcome home complete, thought of the discomforts, trials, and the many trying days which they had experienced since leaving home; their minds worked with the rapidity of lightning and they went over the whole campaign like a flash and they felt after all that in this welcome home, this reuniting with loved ones and kind friends, the hospitality extended them on every hand and the sincerity with which each was greeted; they were being paid in full for every hour of the privations they had endured. They felt that such a greeting was of more value than all they had done to receive it, and in those first hours of ecstasy they wondered if they deserved such homage.

In more than one respect they were gratified beyond expression. If the welcome home was any indica-

tion of the feelings of the people, and no stronger proof was necessary, the boys felt that they had performed their duties in a manner satisfactory to their friends. This meant much to them. To be sure they might have done more if the opportunity had arisen, but it did not and for every duty they were called upon to perform there was one man or more ready to respond to the call. In every manner possible they had bent their efforts toward fulfilling their duties to the best of their abilities, and to know that their efforts in this direction had given satisfaction to their relatives and friends at home was very pleasing to them.

The Sixth Regiment band escorted company E to its armory and boarded the train to be on hand at the welcome of company I. The band arranged to make a tour of each of the twelve towns which was the home of a company of the Sixth, giving a concert in each town. This they did later on and met with pleasant receptions and gratifying success at each place.

After the public reception was over, the volunteers sought their homes and there enjoyed to the fullest that peace and rest that comes to the weary wanderer on his return to the family fold. The hour that had been looked forward to for so long was at last at hand and they gave themselves up to the full enjoyment of it. Invitations to dinners were showered upon them and had they accepted of all of them and ate one half of the good things which was prepared for them, they must have foundered themselves and suffered with the gout the remainder of their days. As it was, many of them were taken ill shortly after their arrival home and hovered between life and death for weeks and months. Their fever infested systems were over taxed and they



were compelled to give in to it. No doubt many of those who were taken ill so soon after reaching home would have given up before had not the thought of returning buoyed them up and gave them courage to fight down the disease. The reaction of the pleasure of the home coming left them weak and resulted in their taking to their beds, there to remain for weeks battling with that grim monster, death, which appeared determined to claim them for its own.

When the regiment left Ponce for New York, we left a number of the sick soldiers who were too weak to withstand the sea voyage home at that time and they remained to return later on hospital ships. At the time of our departure it was expected that these boats would arrive in the harbor at any moment and might possibly land the sick boys in New York in advance of us. This did not prove to be the case and a number of days elapsed before the boys got away from the island and then they were placed on board of several different vessels and in this way became widely scattered.

They were placed in the hospital, of the Nineteenth regulars to await the arrival of the hospital ships. Later the Nineteenth removed from that location and the sick were taken to the general hospital. Of those remaining on the island there were four from company E: privates Fred Sneed, Ernest Kahl, Leo Bushnell and George Rounds. Corporal Luther Allpress also of company E, was taken ill before the regiment left Ponce for the States and was placed on board a hospital ship and taken to Philadelphia where he remained for a short time, returning to Sterling as soon as he had recovered sufficiently to make the journey.

Of the sick members of company I who were left



on the island there were fourteen. Q. M. Serg't Andrew Mathews; Serg'ts Andrew Osborne Jr., and Harry Rockey; Corp'l Harry Berry; privates Fred Brearton, Schuyler Sweeney, Clarence Sears, James Andrews, Charles Freek, Verne Smith, Edward Lepper, William Lueck, Ross Wilkins and Henry Patterson. Ralph Humphrey of the hospital corps was detained in the mountains and did not rejoin the regiment.

The condition of the sick boys varied somewhat as a few of them had been ill for weeks and were in a dangerous condition, while others were more fortunate and able to move about. The boys who were strong enough to be up and around rather enjoyed the situation, but those that were bed ridden were very much depressed when the regiment left the island, and were slow to recover sufficiently to brighten their drooping spirits. It certainly was not a pleasant state of affairs for them.

On the twenty-seventh of September, nearly all of the forty-three members of the Sixth Ills., who were in the hospital at Ponce marched or were carried to the wharf at Port Ponce and boarded the hospital ship Obdam, which sailed at noon the following day for Santiago by the way of the Windward Passage. The first night out occurred the death of private Schuyler Sweeney, the first volunteer from company I to answer the final summons. He was found dead near an open hatchway and it was supposed he fell to the deck below breaking his neck. With but a few days between himself and home, he had suddenly passed, over the great divide to the world beyond where the general and the private are adjudged alike and the epaulettes and gilded cords which adorn the commander, shine no brighter than the worn and faded blouse of the volun-



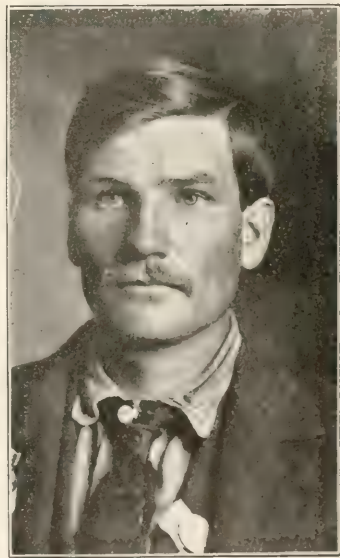
PRIV. ROSS WILKINS.



PRIV. RALPH HUMPHREY.



PRIV. THOS. PHILLIPS.



PRIV. SCHUYLER SWEENEY.

**Four members of Co. I who died in the service.**



teer in the ranks. The morning following his death he was buried at sea.

The Obdam arrived at Santiago the following Friday night, entering the harbor in the morning. The crew was engaged in unloading supplies for the army in Cuba until midnight Sunday when it sailed for New York. At about ten o'clock the next morning, after rounding the eastern point of Cuba the slack in the bunkers was discovered to be on fire and the boat turned back towards Santiago where it arrived the same night. The fire was not of much consequence and at noon Thursday the boat again set sail for New York. On the way out of the harbor the boys had an excellent view of the fortifications and Morro Castle. The boat reached New York on the eleventh and on the morning of the twelfth all were transferred to the city and taken to Miss Helen Gould's place for soldiers.

Among the number who returned on this vessel were the four boys from company E and the following members from company I: Q. M. Serg't Andrew Mathews, Serg't Andrew Osborne and privates Verne Smith, Fred Brearton and Edward Lepper. Serg't Harry Rockey and Corp'l Harry Berry of company I, both of whom were more dead than alive, left Ponce on the hospital ship Missouri on September twenty-eighth, arriving at Fortress Monroe, Newport News, October first. They were taken to the hospital where they remained for some time gradually regaining health and strength until able to continue the journey home.

Privates Ross Wilkins, Charles Freek and Henry Patterson of company I, were among the number who returned to Newport News on the Missouri. James Andrews, William Lueck and Clarence Sears arrived

later and all of the boys from both companies E and I eventually reached their homes with the exception of private Wilkins, who died at Fortress Monroe on the ninth of November. The circumstances surrounding the death of private Wilkins were peculiar and exceptionally sad. About the first of November he wrote to his parents stating that he was able to return home if someone would go there to accompany him on the journey. Later a telegram was received which stated that he thought he was hardly able to withstand the long trip at that time, and two days later he died. No notice of his death was sent his parents, although he had their address on his person. His brother went after him intending to remain with him until he had recovered sufficient to be brought home. On arriving at the hospital he found that the soldier brother had been dead and buried some ten days. The shock was a severe one to his relatives and friends. The remains were later brought to Lyndon for burial.

On October nineteenth occurred the death of private Thomas Phillips of Company I. He was one of the number who joined the company at Springfield, his home was at Buda Ill. When the regiment was furloughed he came to Morrison with the company and was taken ill with typhoid fever a short time afterward. He sank gradually, the end coming quite suddenly. Relatives came and took the remains to Buda where they were interred.

The fourth member of company I to close his eyes to all things earthly while in the service of the government was Ralph Humphrey. When the regiment left Porto Rico, with Ralph in the mountains, none suspected that they had looked upon his face for the last time

in life. His parents heard from him at intervals and he was apparently in good health and the first intimation received that he had been ill was in the return of a letter which was mailed to him on the fourteenth of October. It was received at Utuado November third and returned to Morrison arriving on the thirteenth. Across its face the burning words were written "Deceased,—Returned." The heart stricken parents could hardly realize that their son was not among the living until his death was confirmed officially a few days later.

Following the first notice of his death letters were received from his comrades who were at his bedside when the end came, giving the details in connection with his illness and death. He had been on duty at the hospital up to the time he was admitted as a patient, October fifteenth, and developed typhoid fever. He appeared to be gaining up to the twenty-ninth when he suffered a relapse from which he never rallied and on the thirtieth he died. He was buried with military honors in the pretty little cemetery at Utuado by the side of a number of his unfortunate comrades. He was the first and only one of the boys from Whiteside county to suffer death in the beautiful little island of Porto Rico. His remains were disinterred and brought to Morrison where they were buried in Grove Hill cemetery April thirtieth, 1899.

One of the most sad incidents occurring in the history of the Sixth regiment was the death of Major William E. Baldwin of Dixon. Shortly after the arrival of the regiment in Porto Rico he was affected with dysentery. His health failed gradually and when the return to Ponce was made he was so weakened that he decided to take a berth on the hospital ship Relief. He



was taken to Philadelphia and placed in a hospital where he remained until the time of his death which occurred on September fifteenth. In a letter written his wife under date of the fourteenth of September, he stated he was receiving the best possible treatment and attention, that he was getting along nicely and there was no cause for her to worry as he would be home shortly.

His prediction of the early arrival at home proved true, but little did anyone surmise the conditions that would surround the return of the soldier. The announcement of his death following so closely upon the receipt of the cheering letter completely overcame the waiting wife, a bride of a year, and the anxious father and mother were grief stricken. While in the hospital apparently on the road to ultimate recovery, he suffered a relapse and passed away very suddenly. The remains were brought to Dixon for interment. Guarded by a squad of G. A. R. veterans, the body lay in state in the corridor of the Lee county court house, where it was viewed by hundreds of sorrowing friends. The funeral occurred on the Sunday following his death. It was one of the largest and most impressive ever held in this section of the state. He was buried with military honors befitting his rank.

Major Baldwin had been connected with the Illinois National Guard for ten years, having enlisted as an original member of company G of Dixon, July second 1888. He served as a non-commissioned officer for a time and was commissioned second lieutenant in 1890; promoted to captain in 1891, commanding the company during its service in Chicago where it participated in the campaign arising from the railroad strike. In the fall





Major Wm. E. Baldwin and his mount.



of 1896 he was commissioned major of the Third Battalion and entered the service of the government as a volunteer officer in this capacity. He was well and favorably known throughout the regiment and his death caused a wave of sorrow to sweep over the entire command.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

The sixty days furlough granted the volunteers were spent in accepting invitations to, and attending receptions, which came one after another with amazing rapidity. Public affairs in which the entire community participated were followed by informal dinners and parties where the thought which appeared uppermost in the minds of the hosts was to heap tempting morsels of food upon the tables until they fairly groaned from the overburdening. Everything that lay in the power of these good people was done for the comfort of the returned soldiers, and the thoughts of the days and nights of hunger, rain and mud, passed in the jungles of Porto Rico, were quickly replaced by the most pleasant memories of the days following the home coming.

About a week after the furlough was granted, the company commanders and their assistants were ordered to Springfield to begin the work of preparing the muster-out rolls. This occupied much of the time which followed previous to the date of discharge, as the regular army officer detailed by the government to oversee the work of mustering out the regiment, and under whose directions the work had made fair progress, was relieved from this duty and succeeded by another whose ideas concerning the rules to be followed were entirely

different from those of the first officer on the field, and much that had been completed was ruled out and replaced by such entries as the ideas of the late arrival deemed proper.

The serious illness of many of the returned soldiers, with the receipt of the information, now and then, of the death of some comrade, kept the homes of many in a state of gloom and suspense for sometime, but this gradually wore away and as the boys gathered in their accustomed haunts as of yore, those places took on a familiar aspect and much that had occurred in the summer which had passed, was apparently forgotten.

Sunday morning, November twentieth, company I boarded the train for Sterling, where they joined companies E and G and were soon enroute for Springfield over the "Q." They arrived at their destination in the evening and reported to Colonel Foster the following morning. Several from each company had not sufficiently recovered from their illness as to be in condition to report to Springfield and while those who did report for the muster were given a very thorough physical examination previous to receiving their discharge, the sick boys at home, some of whom were yet hovering between life and death, were given their final papers releasing them from the service without so much as a single query being put to them or their physicians, as to their physical condition.

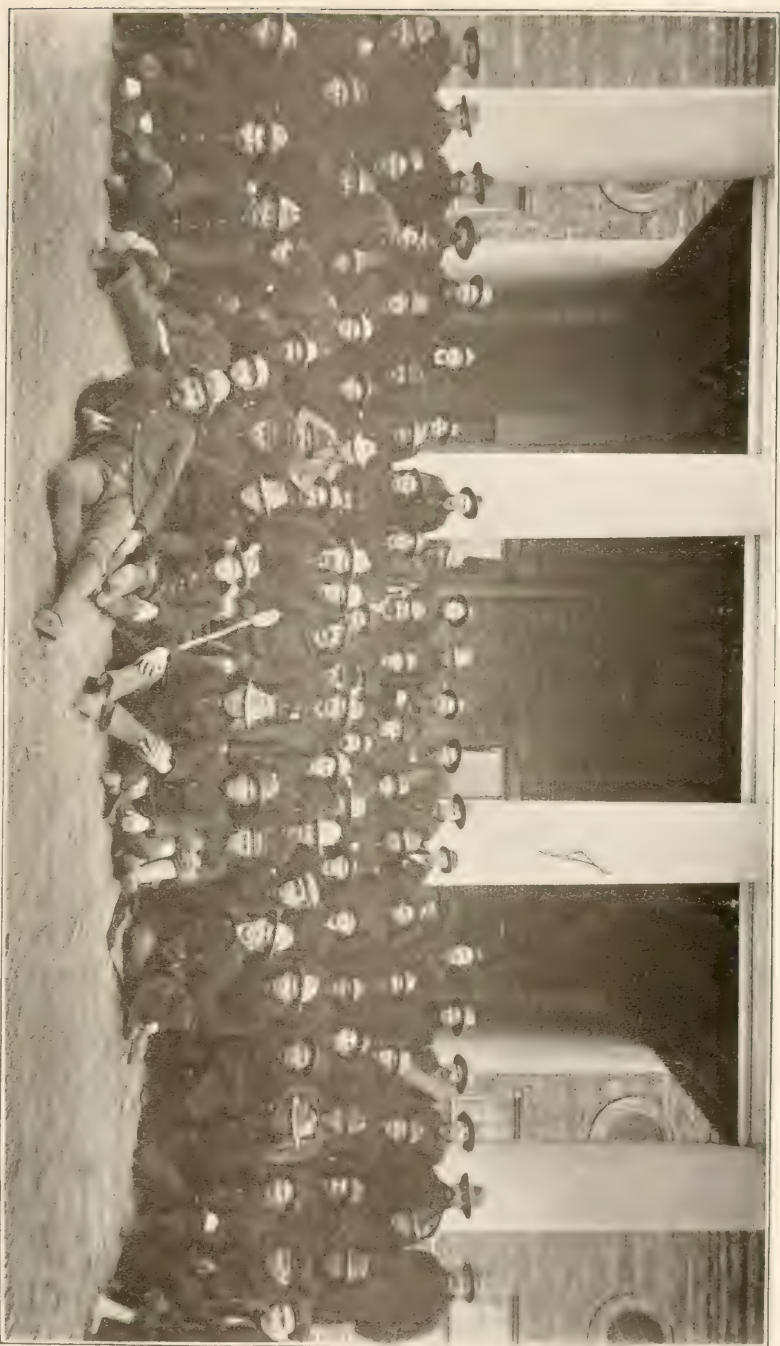
Of company E members, the following were mustered out while ill at home: privates Eager, Lingle, Haberle, Book, Compton and McKelvey. The members of company I who were unable to report at Springfield were: musician Colebaugh, and privates McKenzie, Savage, Reynolds, Smith and Buzzey. Typhoid malarial

fever was the complaint in each case.

While at Camp Tanner the regiment was quartered in the Machinery Hall which had been prepared for their coming by the merchants and citizens of Springfield. The weather turned cold and they were chilled to the marrow as they huddled around the big stoves and strove to keep warm. The Monday following their arrival the boys were given the physical examination. During the next few days pay rolls were signed and on the twenty-fifth they were given their final settlement. They received two and one-half months pay, together with the balance of clothing allowance and ration money while on furlough and that evening boarded the train for home, soldiers no more, but citizens of the state of Illinois. They arrived the next morning, and the Sixth Regiment of Infantry, Illinois Volunteers, of the Spanish-American War of 1898 was an organization of the past and had gone into history.

The war was over as far as actual hostilities were concerned. The signing of the peace protocol on the twelfth day of August was practically the end. A peace commission was appointed and negotiations were in progress which eventually resulted in the renewing of the friendly relations, officially, between our government and that of Spain. A number of regiments of volunteers were retained in the service to do garrison duty in both Cuba and Porto Rico as the then existing conditions were such as would warrant the presence of the military for some time to come.

Porto Rico became a United States possession, the Cubans were given their liberty and the Philippine Islands became the property of our government, which in a spirit of generosity, paid the Spanish government twenty



Co. I as it appeared at Springfield shortly after being mustered out of the volunteer service.





millions of dollars in exchange for its rights and titles to these islands. This act went far to substantiate the statement made by our government at the outbreak of the war, when it declared that this was not a war of conquest but of civilization and humanity. Although our government realized that Spain's actual claims to the Philippines at the commencement of the war were hardly worth twenty cents, it also knew that in the eyes of the nations of the world Spain still retained the right of sovereignty over the islands even if she did maintain it by force of arms and that in but a few localities along the coast.

To allow Spain to remain in possession of the islands was not to be considered, as the inhabitants had done much to aid in driving her out of that territory. To withdraw our troops at that period would have been an act unworthy of our people. To remain in possession without remuneration to the Spanish government would place the war as one of conquest, hence the payment of the twenty millions.

The Philippine war which followed, and has dragged along since, is to be deplored, but in the future when peace reigns over the land which has been torn by wars from center to circumference for years, those untutored, half civilized people will recognize the beauties and strength of our government and their hearts will be filled with thankfulness in being allowed the protection of the parental wing of a people whose very existence as a government is based upon the watchword, "freedom," a people who, in a single century has risen from a position of the humblest to that of the foremost in the ranks of the nations of the globe, and is known and feared alike the world over for its stand for right and justice in every instance and the power which it can and does bring to bear

to enforce its principles.

In every war in the history of our government from that of 1776 to the late war of 1898, the American soldier has carried the stars and stripes to a glorious victory. Many dark clouds have appeared but each had its silver lining and on many occasions when hope was all but lost, the determination to fight it out never lessened, the tide of war would change, at times ebbing and flowing gently and again rushing fiercely along but ultimately landing the American eagle, with the red, white, and blue emblem clutched in its talons, high and dry, there to rest from its wearying struggle and regain its spent energies. The intervening hand of Providence which has come between our people and their enemies so many times, and which appears to be continually hovering over this united people, must have a significant meaning to those who recognize a supreme power and who will give the subject the consideration which it merits.

The Sixth Ill. regiment covered three thousand miles by rail, three thousand on the sea, and marched nearly two hundred miles over cart roads and horse trails along the coast and in the mountains of Porto Rico, during its brief campaign. The record which it made in the few months of service, though not a brilliant one, as army records go, yet it was one of which it may well feel proud. Every duty which it was requested to perform was carried out with an energy which gave it a prominent place in the volunteer regiments of the Spanish war.

When the regiment was in New York, enroute from Porto Rico, Chaplain Ferris met a regular army officer, who, upon learning of the chaplain's connection with the Sixth Illinois, congratulated him on the sterling qualities which the men of the regiment had shown in the re-

cent campaign. The general, for such was the rank of the officer with whom Chaplain Ferris held the conversation, said, "You should be proud of your men. They are soldiers, every inch of them. Every time the world has heard of the Sixth Illinois, it has been because of some duty well done. They have not crept into the newspapers because of scandals among the officers, wholesale complaints from the men or in any of the many ways in which some regiments have acquired "yellow" fame. They have done every duty well, and while they did not do any shooting, the part they took in the war was in every way honorable. The officers have watched them and I assure you that we consider the record of the Sixth Illinois as true soldiers the best of any of the volunteer regiments."

During the month of October 1898, General Miles passed through Illinois enroute to Omaha, and at one of the cities in which he stopped he is quoted as saying: "I had two regiments of Illinois volunteers in Porto Rico, and in justice I must say they stood the fatigue and hardships better than the eastern troops. The Sixth Illinois was brigaded with the Sixth Massachusetts, and I am bound to say the boys from the prairies of Illinois stood the campaign better than the boys from the mills of New England."

Such words as these, coming from the lips of trained soldiers whose lives had been spent in studying the arts of war, had a very pleasing effect on the members of the regiment and they were content to allow the people to pass judgment upon their actions while serving as United States volunteers.

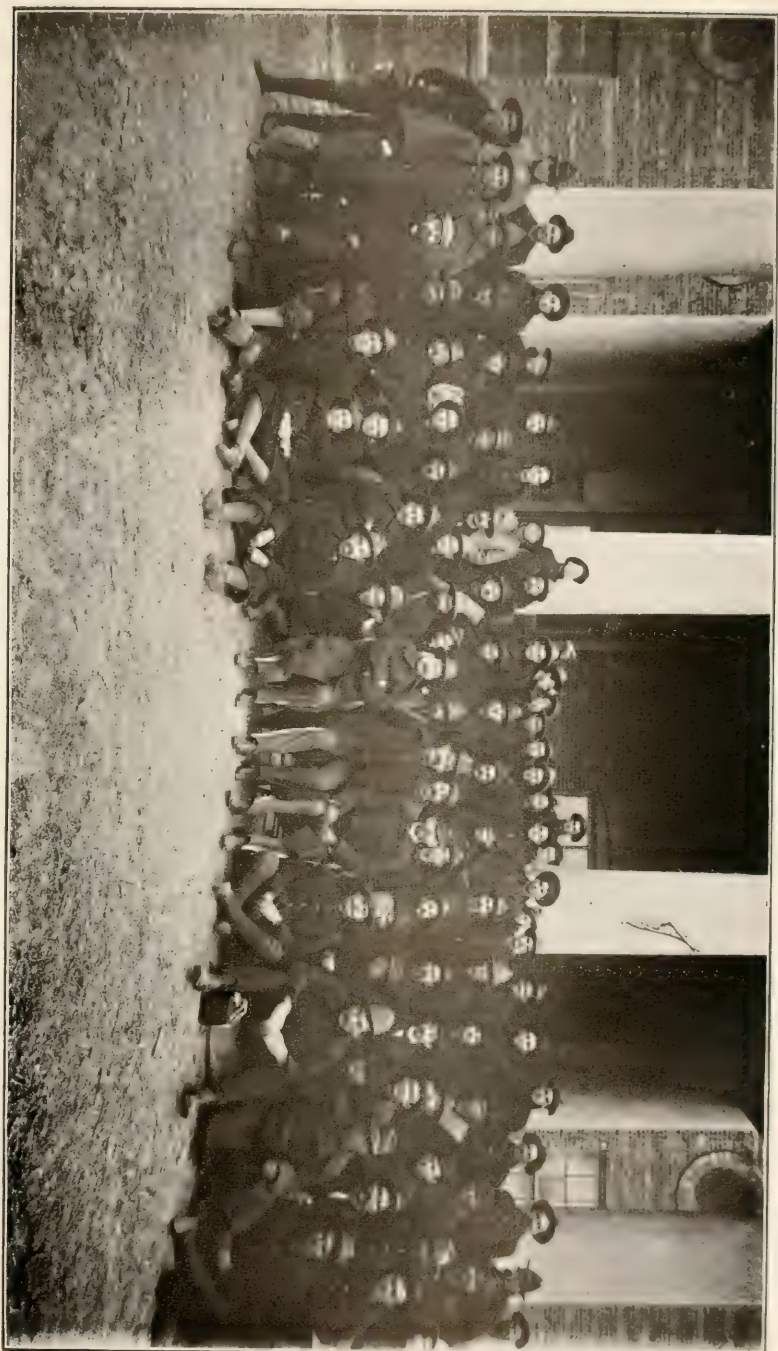
Shortly after the first call for troops was made in the spring of '98, the second company of volunteers

was organized in Sterling and Rock Falls. Walter N. Haskell, ex-officer of company E, Sixth Ill. N. G., was elected captain, W. L. Emmons 1st lieutenant, and G. A. McKelvey 2nd lieutenant. The company was made a part of the provisional regiment which was organized by Gen. Clendenin of Moline and stood ready for a call to the front. The early termination of the war made this unnecessary and the company was not mustered into the service, much as it desired to be.

Illinois has never failed to furnish its quota of men when duty called them to shoulder the musket in times of war. Whiteside county has always been among the first to be heard on such occasions and the brilliant record it has made in offering its wealth of men and treasures in behalf of the love it bears "Old Glory," when danger threatens it, is the source of continual pride of its loyal hearted citizens.

Since the close of the war death has claimed a number of the boys for its victims. In each case the death of the men could be traced to disease contracted while serving as volunteers. Private Leo H. Bushnell of company E, died April twenty sixth 1899. Bugler Roy Eshleman, who it will be remembered was discharged while the regiment was at Camp Alger, died of consumption August eleventh 1899, and private Frank Aument who was ill for some time at Fortress Monroe, and was afterward granted a pension for disability, died March twenty-fourth 1900. Lieut. Ed. Lawton of company I, died at Springfield, Ills., October twenty-first 1899, and private Albert Anstett of Albany, an ex-member of company I, died April second, 1901.

A number of the boys found the life of a soldier so much to their liking that they re-enlisted a short



Co. E as it appeared at Springfield shortly after being mustered out of the volunteer service.





time after being discharged from the Sixth Ills. regiment. As far as is known the following is a complete register of those who re-entered the service: ex-members of company E, Serg't Leslie Sheldon, company M, Fourth U. S. Infantry and private Richard O. Jones, company H, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, both of whom served in the Philippines: private Wilson R. Byers, company E, Eighth U. S. Infantry, served in Cuba, and private John Sheldon who enlisted in 1899 but was discharged shortly afterward for disability.

The ex-members of company I, who enlisted in the regular service and saw duty in the Philippines were privates Frank Weaver, William Schanz, William Dahlstrom, Rollin Humphrey and Lewis Turner. The last named was wounded during an engagement in which he participated and was invalided home. Private Otto Stakelbeck, another ex-member of company I, enlisted in the Heavy Artillery early in 1899 and was assigned to duty at Fort Moultrie in South Carolina. Private Mark Wood enlisted in the cavalry and served a full term in Cuba.

It is not the intention of the writer to attempt to record the names of all those who may have served in the different branches of the service from Whiteside county during the Spanish--American war, but among the number there are a few whose services can will not be overlooked. Any attempt to complete an entire register of the names would entail considerable expense on the part of the person who went in search of the data covering such a record, as men offered their services from nearly every town, village and hamlet within the borders of the county, besides others from the farms. It was decided to make brief mention of those whose

records were available, or could be secured without adding materially to the already unwarranted expense of publishing the book.

James P. Kervan, of Sterling, served throughout the Cuban campaign as a corporal in company C, Twenty-second U. S. Infantry. He was in the midst of the battles before Santiago and El Caney and came out of the combats uninjured. His record as a soldier was an honorable one and he returned to the States with his regiment anticipating an early rejoinder with the home folks. While at Montauk Point he was taken down with typhoid fever and soon succumbed to the disease. He died August thirty-first, 1898. The remains were brought to Sterling for burial, the funeral taking place Sunday, September eleventh. The services were conducted by the Sterling G. A. R. Post and "taps" were sounded o'er the grave, bringing to a close one of the most solemn and impressive funeral services ever held in that city.

Another Sterling boy who made a brilliant record with the Cuban army of invasion was Frank D. Ely. He enlisted in company E, Ill. N. G. as an original member of that organization and was promoted to the rank of corporal and sergeant within the year. Some years later he successfully entered the contest for an appointment to West Point, from which institution he graduated with high honors and was issued a commission in the regular army. His regiment was among the first to be ordered to Cuba and participated in the engagements before San Juan Hill and El Caney. Fortunately he received no wounds, but he, like hundreds of others returned home to be bed ridden for long weary weeks, suffering from typhoid fever, con-

tracted in the treacherous climate of Cuba.

Will H. Allen, who was a resident of Morrison up to the time of his receiving the appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis some years ago, was a Lieut. on board the battleship Oregon during the Spanish-American war. He was on duty on this vessel when it made that wonderful run from the Pacific ocean to join Admiral Sampson's fleet at Santiago, and during the naval fight off Santiago harbor on that memorable third day of July, 1898, where the Oregon and Brooklyn did such terrible execution and established records as fighting machines which surprised the civilized world.

George H. Fay, an old Morrisonite, and first Captain of the original organization of company I. Ill. N. G., also a veteran of the civil war, served throughout the war of '98, in the paymasters department with the rank of Major. At the time of receiving the appointment he was a practicing attorney at Oakes, N. D., and where he now resides.

Another of Whiteside county's sons who served as a volunteer is Henry Clayton Thompson, of Fenton. He was taking a course in medicine in Hahnemann College, Chicago, and when the call for volunteers came was studying with a physician in Appleton, Wis. He enlisted in company E, Second Wisconsin Volunteers, June seventeenth, and was immediately sent to Chickamauga Park, Ga. Later he was transferred to the Reserve Ambulance Corps which accompanied the regiment to Charleston, S. C. The members of the Sixth Ills. will remember meeting the Wisconsin regiment at Charleston, and afterward in Porto Rico. Private Thompson was taken ill at Charleston and placed in the

hospital where he remained from July ninth until October fourteenth. His case of typhoid and malaria was a severe one and it was a miracle that he recovered. He was given a furlough and sent home and later was discharged.

The above brief mention of a number of Whiteside county boys who were Uncle Sam's servants in '98, closes Part II of this history. On the following pages the record of companies E and I, Ill. N. G., is taken up with the arrival at home after being mustered out of the volunteer service, and completed to April thirtieth, 1901, the date on which this record closes, giving a roster of the members of both companies as they were entered upon the company registers at that date.

# PART III.



# ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD.

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CLOSING CHAPTERS OF THE HISTORY OF COMPANIES I AND  
E, RECORDING THE INCIDENTS OCCURRING FOLLOW-  
ING THEIR VOLUNTEER SERVICE, AND COM-  
PLETED TO APRIL 30, 1901.

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## CHAPTER I.

For some time after the return of the volunteers military affairs remained very quiet in the National Guard. Many of the ex-volunteers who were guardsmen were adverse to taking up the work of drilling and maneuvering with the state troops for a time at least. These men were in no great hurry to pick up the thread where it had been dropped some months before as they had satisfied the longing for a soldier life to a certain extent, and the National Guard had but little attraction for them.

This feeling of indifference gradually disappeared and the interest in the State organizations was again manifest in a short time, although a goodly number of those whose term of enlistment had expired during the



summer months did not again enter the service. On the other hand there was more of an interest apparent in the affairs of the Guard on the part of the citizens of the communities wherein the companies were located than had existed for years. A number of the boys who had served as volunteers, but who had not previously been connected with the Guard, entered their names upon the rolls for a term of years.

The military spirit which had enveloped and swayed our people from one end of the country to the other during the late war, had left its effects on the youths throughout the land and they were anxious to become connected with the State troops. With the general awakening of the interest of the citizens in the affairs of the Guard and the spirit with which the members entered upon their duties, the companies rapidly re-organized and were soon placed on a footing which bid fair to advance the efficiency of the troops in general beyond that of former years and add materially to their worth as citizens soldiers whose duties it is to guard and protect the interests of peaceful citizens within the borders of their State.

The affairs of companies I and E ran along on the old even tenor for a time and the regular weekly drills were called as of yore. The first change of any note occurred when Capt. Lawrie of Company E was elected Major of the Third Battalion. He was commissioned as such January fifth, 1899. The vacancy caused by the promotion of Capt. Lawrie was filled by electing 2nd Lieut. J. Frank Wahl as Captain, his commission was dated Feb. ninth, 1899. On the same date Orderly Sergt. Samuel H. Feigley was commissioned as 2nd. Lieut. On the first of July following these changes,



Capt H. S. Green.  
1st Lieut. H. A. Weaver, 2nd Lieut. J. L. Rockey.  
Officers of Co. I., Sixth Ill., N. G.



1st. Lieut. G. B. Dillon was placed upon the retired list by his own request, and on the fourteenth of the same month 2nd. Lieut. Feigley was commissioned 1st. Lieut. and Sergt. Charles F. Hoobler was advanced to the grade of 2nd. Lieut. which constitutes the roster of commissioned officers of company E at the close of these records, April thirtieth 1901.

The return home of company I found it without a lieutenant. The resignation of 2nd Lieut. E. J. Weaver from the volunteers which was accepted May fourteenth 1898, was also effective in the National Guard. The commission of 1st Lieut, E. C. Lawton expired May thirtieth 1898. An election was called to fill such vacancies as existed at the time, which resulted in the selection of Sergt. Harry Weaver as 1st. Lieut. and Sergt. Jacob L. Rockey as 2nd Lieut., each commission bearing the date of March ninth, 1899. Capt. W. F. Colebaugh's commission expired July ninth of the same year and Harvey S. Green was elected Captain and commissioned as such July fourteenth. By referring to the roster of company I it will be seen that Capt. Green had served as a private and non-commissioned officer in this company some ten years previous.

Walter Burritt of Morrison was re-appointed Q, M. Sergt. of the 1st Battalion July twenty-ninth, 1899, and promoted to Regimental Commissary Sergt., July twenty-third 1900. On the twenty-first day of July 1900, Corp'l Paul F. Boyd of company I received the appointment of Hospital Steward of the Sixth Regiment. During the annual encampment at Springfield in August 1899, Sergt. John Cushman of company E was appointed Regimental Ordnance Sergt. of the Sixth.

On October sixteenth 1899, Edward A. Smith of Morrison was commissioned 1st Lieut. and attached to the staff of Gen. Wm. Clendenin, commanding the Third Brigade. During the Brigade encampment held at Springfield in August 1900, Lieut. Smith was commissioned Colonel and Aide de camp on Governor Tanner's staff. Although Col. Smith did not accept the commission officially, it was entered on the State records at Springfield and he retained this rank until the expiration of Governor Tanner's term of office.

Company E continues to retain the even, tranquil tenor of the early days. Nothing appears to disturb the serenity of its existence. Each member seemingly takes a deep interest in the affairs of the company and they work in harmony in everything which they undertake. In following this unwritten rule, as it were, they have strengthened the organization materially. Confidence in their officers and comrades in the ranks, has much to do with the general condition of the company as a military organization; renders pleasant the duties which the men may be called upon to perform, and is invaluable in bringing about that very desirable condition of affairs which can only be attained by the united efforts of every officer and man in the company, to the mutual benefit of all.

To company E and its members since the date of organization in 1888, is due no little credit for the manner in which it has maintained its enviable position in the National Guard. This company is today, and always has been, one of the most efficient and best drilled in the state.

With company I there has been a wonderful transformation in its condition in the past few years. When

Captain Green was placed in command of the company he realized that the organization was sadly in need of assistance in various ways. He immediately set to work determined to re-build the company and if his personal assistance was equal to the task, place it on a par with the foremost organizations of like character in the state. From that day to the present he has never lagged, and the elegant home of company I today is the result of his untiring labors. Not alone in this respect has his influence and energies benefited the company, but also in the general condition of the organization as citizen soldiers. With this installation of new vigor and life, those connected with the company combined their efforts in an attempt to raise it from the level to which it had gradually fallen, with a result that is highly gratifying to all.

Shortly after receiving his commission, Captain Green began laying plans for the erection of a new, commodious armory. After some time had been expended in formulating plans and securing the assistance, financially, of interested citizens, a lot was purchased on west main street and the work of building began in earnest. Ground was broken in September 1900, and although handicapped by the inclemency of the weather during the early winter months, the armory was practically completed by January first 1901. The building is constructed of brick and is the full depth of the lot. The drill room is on the first floor and is large and well proportioned. The wardrobe room is also located on the first floor.

The front of the building is two stories in height, the ground floor being occupied as a store room. The second floor is given to a suite of rooms for the use of



the "Morrison Military Club," an organization founded by the members of company I. On the east side of the upper floor is the bathroom, which is equipped with both tub and shower bathing apparatus, also toilet rooms. Joining this is the captains office which opens into the main room or clubroom proper. This room is large and fitted up for the convenience of the club members, and is a very pleasant resort for both the old and young men of the town as all citizens are eligible to membership upon payment of the regularly established quarterly dues. A janitor is in attendance both day and evening.

This elegant home for the company was erected at a cost of twelve thousand dollars, and without doubt is one of the most roomy, comfortable, and convenient armories in the State of Illinois, outside of the regimental armories in Chicago. It is the pride of the company and the citizens of Morrison. The company took possession of the building the first of the year, 1901, the dedication ceremonies were held on the evening of the twenty-second of that month.

Company I stands first in the regiment in the point of numbers and as for general character and proficiency, stands second to none among the companies which compose the country regiments of the state. This may appear to some as a very broad assertion but it is the simple truth nevertheless. Such conditions were not brought about without much hard work, and to retain this coveted state of affairs its members must continue to exert their energies and personal influence for the good of the company generally, and keep before them the fact that if everything is left to the willing hands of a few who have the interest of the company at heart,





JOHN CUSHMAN,  
Recently commissioned Capt. Co E,  
Ill. N. G.



those few will tire of the thankless task in time and the result will be a gradual declining into the old rut.

The officers and enlisted men of both companies D and E are fully justified in having a sense of pride in their connection with these organizations as a part of the state troops of Illinois. Illinois, as a state, ranks among the first in the union, and it is fitting that the men who represent it in whatever capacity, should lend their every assistance in maintaining the fair name and honor of "Illinois." Next to serving the government there is no more patriotic manner of paying tribute to the flag than in that of serving the state faithfully and loyally under all circumstances.

There are those who are inclined to jeer at the National Guard but it is a noticeable fact that when a disturbance arises it is quickly brought to mind and its members called upon to shoulder their muskets, and leaving bench and stool, take up the thankless task of guarding lives and property even at the peril of their own lives.

Since completing the records on the previous pages Capt. Wahl of company E, severed his connection with the Guard and upon his own application was placed on the retired list. His commission expired February ninth 1902, he having been in the service continually since the company was organized in 1888. At the election which was called to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Capt. Wahl, John Cushman, the only remaining member of company E, who was a charter member of the organization, was elected Captain commanding.

Captain Cushman enlisted in company E March twenty-fourth, 1888, and has been connected with the

Guard continually since. He was appointed Corporal June sixteenth, 1891, and promoted to the rank of Sergeant a short time later. He enlisted as a volunteer in company E April twenty-sixth, 1898, serving as a sergeant until July when he was appointed Regimental Ordnance Sergeant of the Sixth Ills. Volunteers, and attached to the non-commissioned staff of that regiment.

In August of the year following the war he was appointed Ordnance Sergt. of the Sixth Illinois National Guards which warrant and rank he held at the time of his being commissioned Captain of company E. The commission bears the date of February tenth, 1902. Captain Cushman has a number decorations which he has received in recognition of his excellent marksmanship. He is considered one of the best shots in the state. He won the decoration of Distinguished Sharpshooter by a score of five hundred and thirty-eight points, which is the record score for Illinois as shown by the reports of the adjutant general of the state. He is popular among the members of the company and its affairs are placed in safe hands. The boys of company E and many friends of Captain Wahl regret that he should retire at this early day when prospects for his future in the Guard were exceedingly bright.

## CHAPTER II.

The roster of each company as recorded April thirtieth, 1901, follows. This closes Part III, and brings to a final the records of companies I and E. From the outset it has been the aim of the writer to record the many incidents and changes which have occurred since the organization of the companies, without partiality being shown to either company, or any one of their many members. The facts and data from which this history was compiled, were taken from the files of both companies and the utmost caution has been used throughout to place them just as they were written in every case.

## COMPANY I.

Captain,	Harvey S. Green.
1st Lieutenant,	Harry A. Weaver.
2nd Lieutenant,	Jacob L. Rockey.
1st Sergeant,	Harry H. Rockey.
Commissary Sergt.,	E. L. Curtis.
Sergeant,	Andrew F. Mathews.
“	Orville P. Kaler.
“	George A. Everhart.
Corporal,	Fred W. Brearton.
“	George Hunt.
“	Robert C. Thompson.

Corporal,	Robert W. Taylor,
"	Emerson M. Fellows,
"	William H. Burch,
"	Harry A. Bent,
"	Richard L. McKenzie,
Bugler,	James Brearton,
"	G. Webber.
"	R. E. Davis.
Hospital Corps,	William Morse,
Private,	Annan, George
"	Annan, Frank W.
"	Annan, Floyd J.
"	Adams, Ray
"	Breiter, Arthur
"	Bunzey, R. S.
"	Besse, Karl
"	Beckwith, E. Q.
"	Bailey, Jesse
"	Bowen, Floyd J.
"	Brearton, Martin R.
"	Brown, Lloyd J.
"	Cargay, Olin
"	Childs, Clarence C.
"	Childs, W. L.
"	Booth, Clarence A.
"	Davis, Walter B.
"	Davis, Floyd N.
"	Derby, Harry
"	Drennen, Marcus L.
"	Drury, Walter C.
"	Donichy, James G. B.
"	Ege, Sylvester
"	Ege, Harry P.



SAMUEL H. FEIGLEY,  
1st Lieut. Co. E, Ill. N. G.





Private,	Fitzgerald, Charles D.
"	Fenton, William J.
"	Green, John W.
"	Gorzney, John
"	Gorzney, Joe
"	Hawse, George B.
"	High, Aaron
"	Hirleman, Samuel
"	Hirleman, Wilbur
"	Johnson, Bert
"	Heiss, Joseph C.
"	Kennedy Vern V.
"	Kaler, Ralph
"	Lamson, Claude B.
"	Lewis, Walter P.
"	McBride, Harley A.
"	Miller, Frank
"	Meyers, Frank
"	Morrill, O. A.
"	Meyer, Sam
"	Nelson, Melvin R.
"	Olmstead, Stuart
"	Odell, Arthur B.
"	Pratt, Thurston T.
"	Riordon, John A.
"	Stone, Erastus
"	Smith, Nick A.
"	Shaw, Harry V.
"	Stalcup, James
"	Stowell, John
"	Smaltz, Roy
"	Seibert, John D.
"	Shirk, Charles

Private,	Snyder, William
"	Turner, Richard
"	Weeks, Charles D.
"	Wilcox, Albert
"	Winans, Percy H.
"	Weaver, Carl
"	Welch, Chris
"	Welch, Harry
"	Wilbur, Sidney
"	Yopst, Birt O.

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COMPANY E.

Captain,	J. Frank Wahl.
1st Lieutenant,	Samuel H. Feigley.
2nd Lieutenant,	Charles F. Hoobler.
1st Sergeant,	Arthur E. Deem.
Commissary Sergt,	J. D. Walck.
Sergeant,	Fred Hess.
"	Frank H. Coryell.
"	George Havens.
"	Albert Street.
Corporal,	Carl Winters
"	Burt Sneed.
"	James Burr.
"	Fred Sneed.
"	Lloyd Thompson.
"	William Deem.
Bugler,	William Lund.
"	John Sampson.
Hospital Corps,	William Connell.
"	Charles Ramsdell.
Privates,	Anning, A. H.
"	Alderfer, Philip

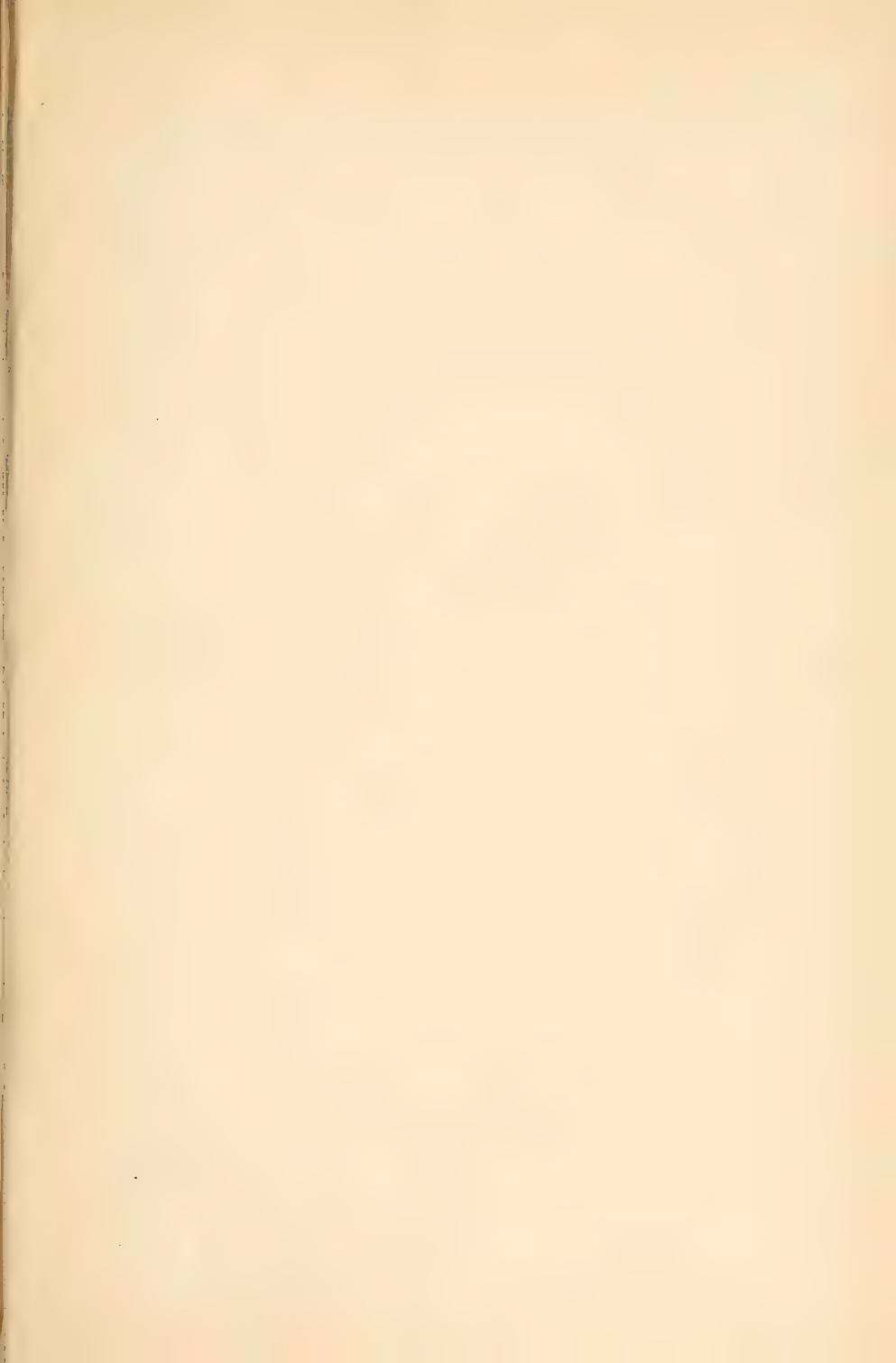
Private,	Aument, Hemans
"	Bailey, F. C.
"	Bassett, Bert
"	Blair, George
"	Bander, C.
"	Betts, Verne
"	Baker, John H.
"	Connors, Walter
"	Connell, James
"	Clark, Edgar L.
"	Diffenbaugh, Ben
"	Emmons, Frank
"	Eager, Wallace L.
"	Feigley, J. Lovure
"	Forrester, Frank M.
"	Finch, Bert
"	Grey, Arthur
"	Grimes, Leon
"	Harting, Frank
"	Heaton, Frank
"	Hoover, Arthur
"	Hoover, Harry
"	Hartman, Andrew
"	Husler, Fred
"	Hoover, Ben
"	Ingersoll, Bruce
"	Jackson, Arthur
"	Jackson, Merton
"	Johnson, Fred
"	Jamison, Paul R.
"	Kent, George
"	Latherow, Walter
"	Landier, Herman

Private,	Mangan, Clarence
"	Mangers, Charles
"	Meade, Clyde
"	Nelms, William
"	Partridge, Harry
"	Phelps, Walter
"	Onken, Anthony
"	Shank, Ambrose J.
"	Stevens, Earnest
"	Shumaker, Harry E.
"	Troste, Samuel D.
"	Thome, George
"	Van Drew, Clarence
"	Wahl, Albert
"	Wise, Ed.

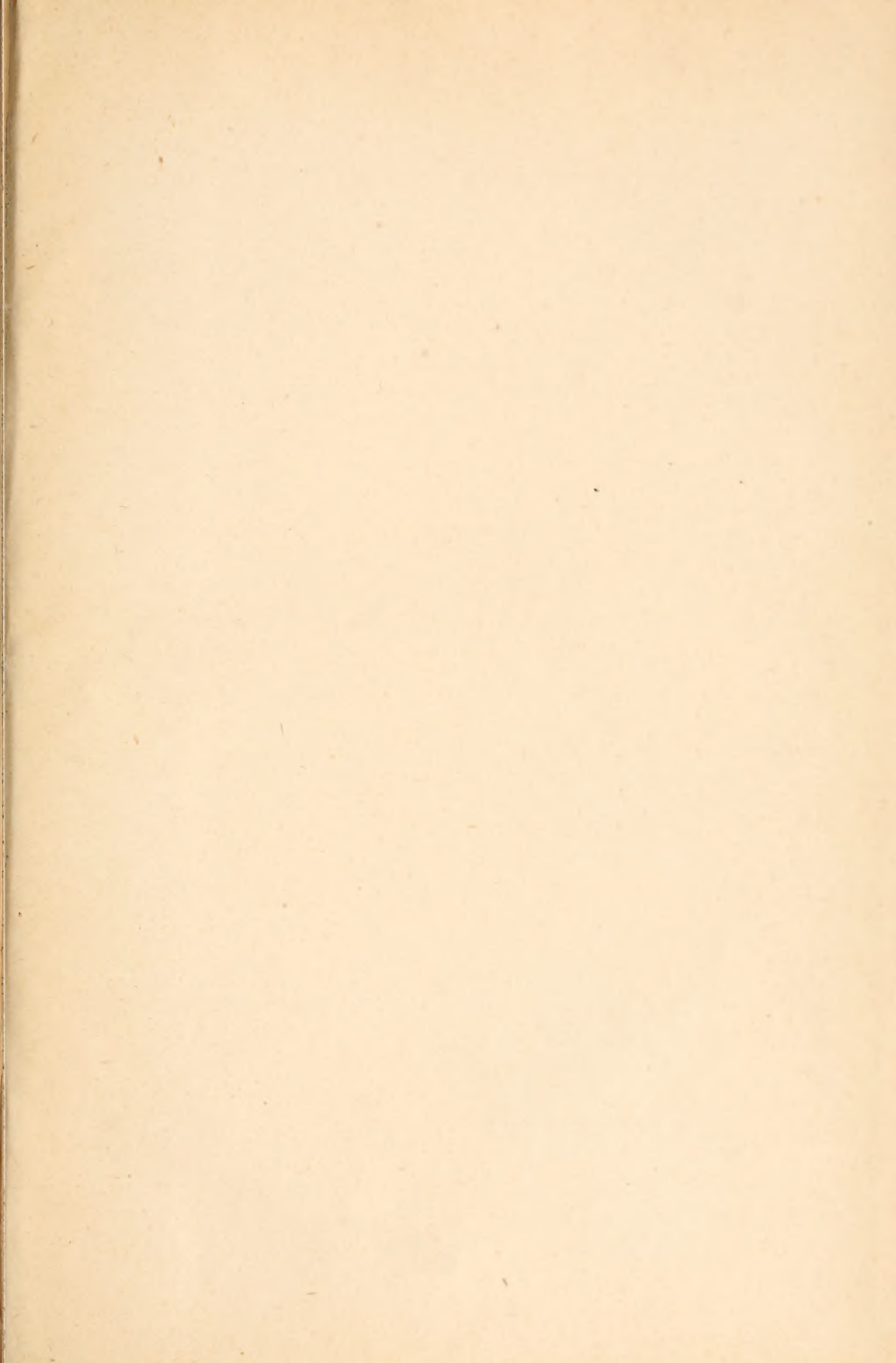
















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